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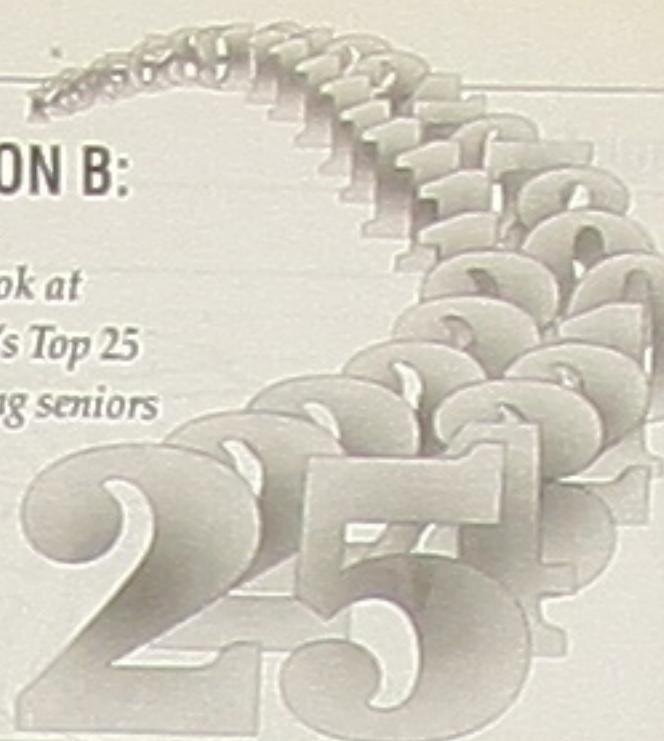
THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595

VOLUME NO. 57, ISSUE NO. 24

SECTION B:

*Take a look at
Southern's Top 25
graduating seniors*

**FEATURE**

DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Taking a walk through the...

Clouds



Students take the big plunge

By BRIAN PALMER

STAFF WRITER

Saturday, as dark clouds threatened, a few Missouri Southern students braved the wind and rain to ... jump out of an airplane.

Free Fall Express, at the Mount Vernon airport, is offering a special to students who would like to experience the feeling of falling from 10,000 feet. The cost is \$89 during the months of April and May, which includes the eight-hour class, rental of the equipment, the airplane ride, and all the crew responsible for making a diver's landing soft.

So although it's economical, one question remains: Why would anyone want to jump out of an airplane? "Some friends and I talked it over, and we just thought it would be fun," said Angie Hiller, freshman criminal justice major, moments before her first jump. "So, we're braving up and going to go do it."

"The first time I ever saw anybody parachute I wanted to do that," said Phillip Johnson, senior biology and chemistry major. "I'll jump twice a week, at least. I'm ready to buy my own rig."

Johnson had jumped before, and recently decided to do it again.

Josh Unkie, senior psychology major, had a different outlook on his decision to fall from a great height. "I had a death wish," he said. "I figured I would get the adrenaline pumping."

The hangar was full of nervous students waiting to jump. Many were engaging in soothing activities while waiting for the airplane to get into place. Some were climbing a rope repeatedly, while others sat mildly shaking as Jarred Moore, free-fall photographer,

played a quiet song on his guitar.

"Right now, it's not too bad, but I have a feeling once I get up there it's going to be a lot worse," said Brad Boone, senior computer science major.

Finally, the plane arrived, and the students donned their equipment and loaded into the craft. The ground crew got into position and waited for the plane to circle into position. Then a figure appeared in the gray sky, tailed by a colorful parachute. The ground crew went into high gear. The jumps had begun.

Once on the ground, the students expressed their excitement by yelling and screaming, although some were more articulate.

"I feel good — I plan to do it again," Boone said. "It was just like flying. It was awesome."

Unkie echoed the sentiment.

"It was a pretty incredible rush," he said.

"It's really scary when you get up there and they open the door and you think, 'Oh my gosh, am I really going to go through with this?'" Hiller said. "Then you get out there and you just let go, and it's just like you're the only person in the world. It's great."

Most everyone expressed an interest in returning for at least one more jump.

"About 98 percent of the people want to do it again," said Roger Moore, owner of the drop zone. "The ones that don't obviously got scared too bad, but they loved it."

Anyone who would like to try skydiving should call Free Fall Express at (417) 886-3866, but beware — it takes a certain kind of person to enjoy this. "You've got to have a little bit of insanity in the corner of your brain to jump out of a plane that's flying along perfectly," Johnson said. □

Student LifeBeat


These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the students. If you have story suggestions please call 625-9311.

Angela Hiller (also pictured above), freshman criminal justice major, takes a hard landing during her jump Saturday with Free Fall Express in Mount Vernon. She said friends talked her into jumping.

DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

INTERNATIONAL MISSION

'Chart' voyage to set precedent

By STEPHANIE GOAD

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

When Hong Kong's sovereignty is handed back to China on July 1, two Missouri Southern journalists will be there, pad in hand, to cover history in the making.

Rick Rogers and Jake Griffin, editors of *The Chart*, Southern's campus newspaper, were chosen by Southern's institute of international studies to go abroad this summer to represent the College by reporting events as they occur during the prominent occasion. The duo will then relay stories to the United States for publication in various newspaper throughout the nation, including *The Joplin Globe*.

This trip, according to Richard Massa, director of the institute, is an experiment to determine the feasibility of other travel opportunities in the future. He said many other newspapers and colleges around the nation are intrigued that a college would pro-



Rogers



Griffin

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Assignment: | HONG KONG |
| April 10: | Hong Kong's future |
| April 17: | Gockel Symposium |
| April 24: | The China Semester |
| May 1: | The Chart's voyage |

vide such an opportunity for student reporters.

"We've had lots of interest expressed now that the word has spread," Massa said.

Through this travel experience, Massa hopes to raise awareness of Southern's international mission.

"We are hoping for a building of the awareness that we are internationally minded and will go to great extremes to bring internationalism to the lives of our students," he said.

Griffin, 24, and Rogers, 22, both senior communications majors, were surprised to hear the news of their upcoming trip to Hong Kong.

"My eyes bugged out, and my mouth dropped," Griffin said. "Then I looked at Rick, and he had the same stupid

TURN TO TRIP, PAGE 2A

CAMPUS SECURITY

Office hopes to cut crime with emergency beacon

By AARON DESLATTE

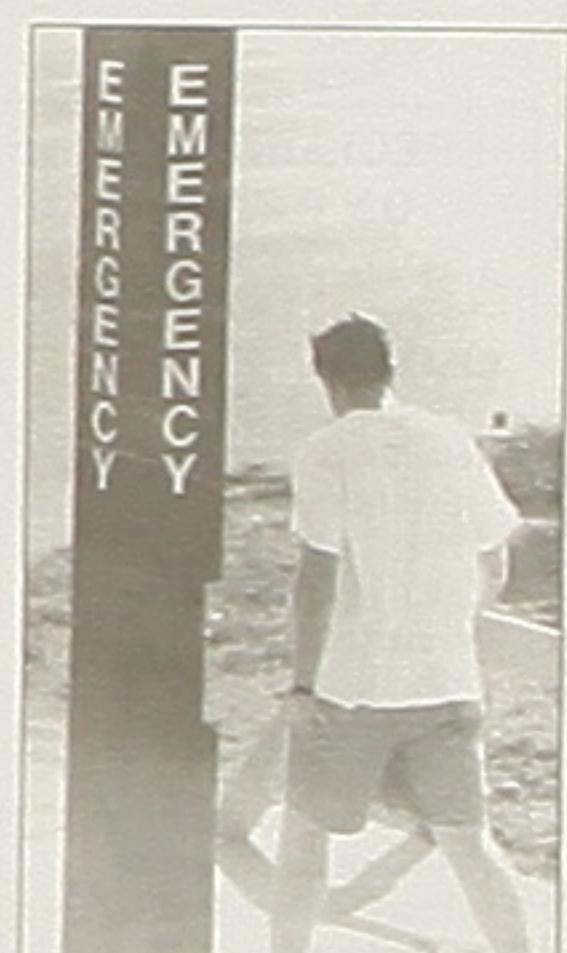
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Missouri Southern students who are in need of security or experiencing automobile problems on campus now have the benefit of letting their fingers do the walking.

That is, if they're on the north parking lot.

The installation of an emergency phone on Southern's north parking lot at the entrance to the Newman Road tunnel was completed April 24. The phone has only one button, which automatically dials campus security and simultaneously activates a strobe beacon on top of the device. During the daytime, the phone will contact the campus security office, while at night calls are received directly by a security cellular phone located in a campus patrol car.

Bob Beeler, director of the physical plant,



RICK ROGERS/The Chart
The security phone is located in the College north parking lot.

TURN TO PHONE, PAGE 2A

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

'Chicket' sweeps all four seats in annual election of Senate officers

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Current Student Senate vice president Eden Aber attributes her 56-vote victory over current Senate treasurer Josh Phillips in Monday and Tuesday's Student Senate presidential race to her last-minute electioneering.

The final tally in the race came down to 224 students voting for Aber, while 168 voted for Phillips.

During Tuesday's balloting at the Billingsly

Student Center, Aber stood beside the booth and presented potential voters with information about her campaign. That tactic is closely monitored in most elections. Candidates and campaigns are usually required to remain anywhere from 25 to 50 feet away from the entrance to voting stations. Aber's tactics have her opponent upset.

"Prior to Tuesday, I was fairly confident," Phillips said. "I thought I had a very good chance."

But he said when he arrived at the ballot box to cast his vote Tuesday, he saw Aber standing

nearby, handing out index cards with the names of the four women running for office. The "chicket," Phillips said, received an upper hand from Aber's electioneering.

"I was very apprehensive on Monday," Aber said.

Her decision to do the electioneering, she admits, is likely what put her ahead.

Besides Aber, Senate treasurer Sandy Fisk and senior senators Jill Beever and Melanie Spalding were also elected into next year's executive offices.

Phillips said he wasn't upset that Aber took

advantage of the lax electioneering policies, but instead was upset the president was elected for reasons other than the candidate's principles.

"Nobody that ran is not of sufficient caliber," Phillips said.

Phillips plans to change Senate election laws next year.

Aber agrees that changes need to be made to the election process.

In the other elections, Spalding and Beever won in uncontested races for the secretary and treasurer races, respectively. □



Fisk

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What's Inside



GETTING IN-LINE

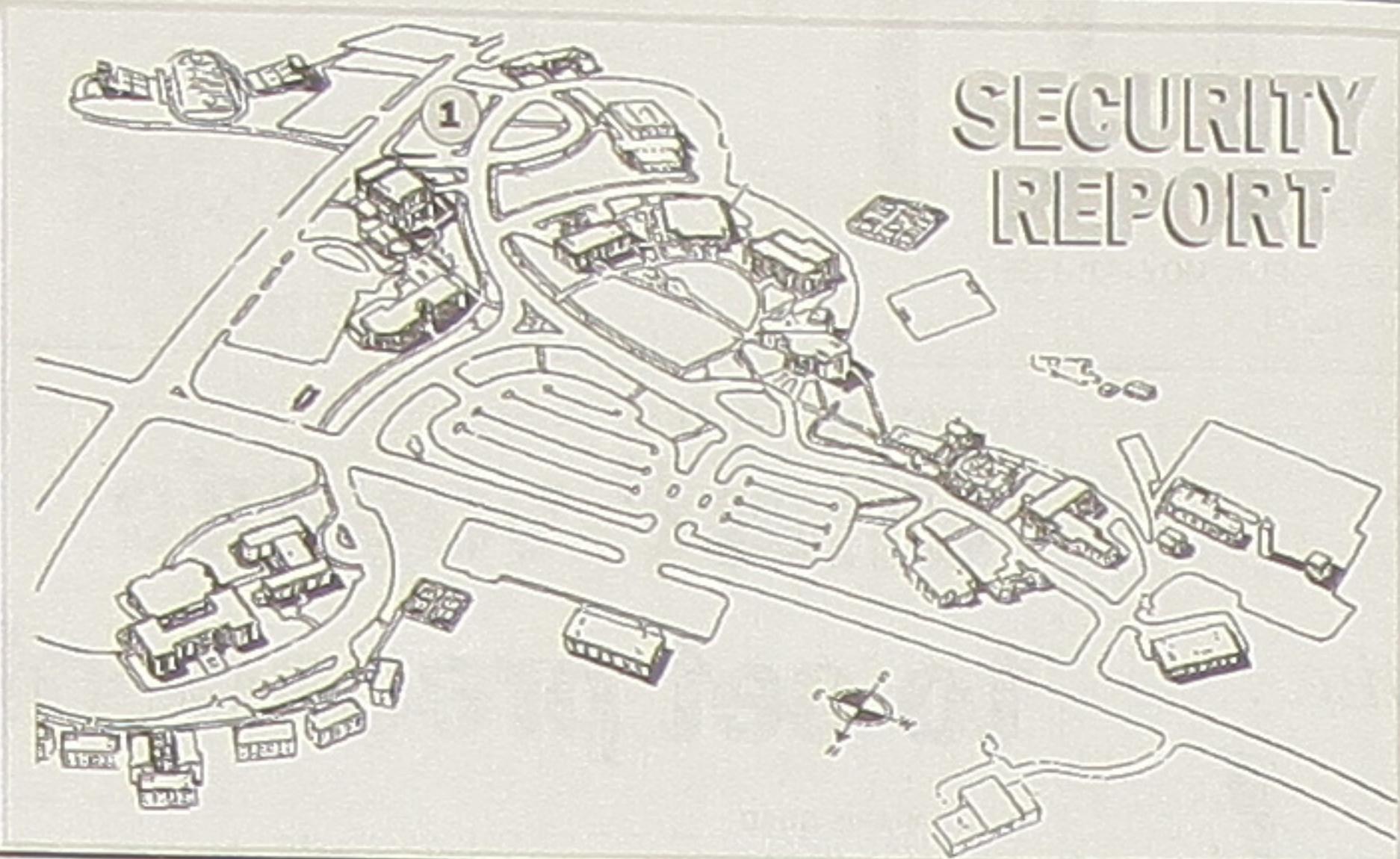
AROUND CAMPUS:

In-line skating and roller hockey are no longer new on the sporting scene, but are still popular among Missouri Southern students. □ page 6A

**SPORTS:**

Reserve Lion quarterback Rodney McClure excels in the final spring practice. □ page 11A





1 4/28/97 LOT 14 3:00 p.m. Sondra Plant, junior elementary education major, reported she backed into a piece of rebar sticking up from a parking curb. The rear bumper of her 1995 Dodge Neon received a half-inch wide chip.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

PHONE: Pranking becomes problem for security officers

From page 1A

says the primary reason for the phone's installation was to act as a preventative measure in campus crime but that students could also use it when faced with vehicular problems.

"We've taken a lot of preventative measures in the last few years, and this is just another one," Beeler said. "If you feel unsafe about any situation, it's an easy way to contact campus security."

Beeler said the phone has been installed on a trial basis and its future is dependent upon the maturity of the student response it receives.

"Prank [calls] will certainly make the phone less effective for everyone," he said.

"We'll have to see how the system is respected. If this system proves useful, then we'll consider adding some more phones."

Since its activation, the phone has met with increasing student curiosi-

ty but little actual need.

"We've had several people push the button and walk off, but so far we haven't had any actual emergency calls on it," said Craig Richardson, prevention officer at Southern.

"[Students] may have an idea what it's for, but they don't know the real purpose for the phone," he said.

"It's a new toy, and they have to find out how it works."

Richardson said every time the phone is used, campus security is required to respond. □

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Belhaven

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St. Andrew's Ale

Fraoch Heather Ale

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McEwan's Scotch Ale

Switzerland
Ceasarius Heller Bock

Hexenbau Swiss Deinkel

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Little support cancels show

By GINNY DUMOND
CAMPUS EDITOR

there was also a concert Wednesday.

Though the acts including band members had to cancel, the CAB decided to allow other students to continue signing up. When the CAB saw that only five acts were willing to participate, the show was canceled.

Foster said he doesn't think canceling the show will put a damper on the events of Spring Fling week. "We had a line all day to get butt sketches, and over 400 people attended free movie night," he said. "And I know there will be a mass of people turning out Friday."

Foster also added that the talent

show may remain permanently off the docket for future years of the Spring Fling.

"That way the people normally in the talent show can concentrate a full year on the performance," he said. "We don't want to take away from Homecoming."

Sophomore communications major Andre Smith was preparing to perform a comedic routine imitating Bill Cosby when he found out the event had been halted.

"I don't think I really missed out," he said.

"I think the people who didn't get to see what I was going to do missed out." □

TRIP: May reinforce foundation of international mission

From page 1A

look on his face. We were both stunned."

Like Massa, he also believes the trip will serve the purpose of reinforcing the College's international mission.

"It is really to inform the school and the community," Griffin said. "It's not only a great opportunity for me and Rick, but we will be doing a great service for the community as well. It will also boost the reputation of the international mission."

Rogers, recently selected Missouri College Journalist of the Year, said he views the trip as an educational experience.

"Jake and I will be experiencing a whole different world," he said. "It

will be a great experience with memories I'll have forever, and I will be able to tie them in with the memories I have of *The Chart* and Southern."

During their three-week stay in Hong Kong and cities in mainland China, the two will be covering many of the events that will accompany the switch in government.

They will also write feature articles to capture many aspects of the Chinese culture.

Ottaway News Services has agreed to submit Rogers and Griffin's articles to their 19 newspapers around the nation, including *The Joplin Globe*.

"Arrangements have been made by contacts in Hong Kong to give them access to a fax machine and

other means to send their articles," Massa said.

When it comes to safety concerns, Massa said he is confident the two students will be fine.

"My main concern," Griffin said, "is that we will get shut out by the Chinese government; they don't have a long-standing tradition of helping student journalists, and my greatest fear is that the big stories will be shut out and we'll end up putting out a travel guide."

The two will also have the opportunity to travel to Guangzhou (Canton), Beijing, and Shanghai.

Upon their return to the United States, Rogers and Griffin will publish a special supplement for *The Chart* that will feature many articles and photos depicting the Chinese culture. □

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25 seniors receive Dolence awards

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
STAFF WRITER

Twenty-five students received recognition for outstanding leadership and service at the sixth annual Glenn D. Dolence Leadership/Service Ceremony April 23. From those 25, Autumn Lawrence, senior chemistry major, was honored as the most outstanding leader.

The student services office and Omicron Delta Kappa sponsor the awards. This year's recipients were chosen by a committee from a pool of 65 seniors who had been nominated by faculty and staff.

"The main reason we have this is to honor outstanding students for leadership and service," said Doug Carnahan, dean of students. "Prior to this, the only honors we had were for academic achievement."

Even though a high grade-point average is not required for nomination, Carnahan said the nominees are invariably good students.

"The award recognizes service, not just leadership," he said. "We're looking for people who have contributed a lot to the College, not just someone who looks good on a résumé. Some of our winners worked as student help and did an outstanding job."

Lawrence said she was both shocked and pleased to

win the outstanding leadership award.

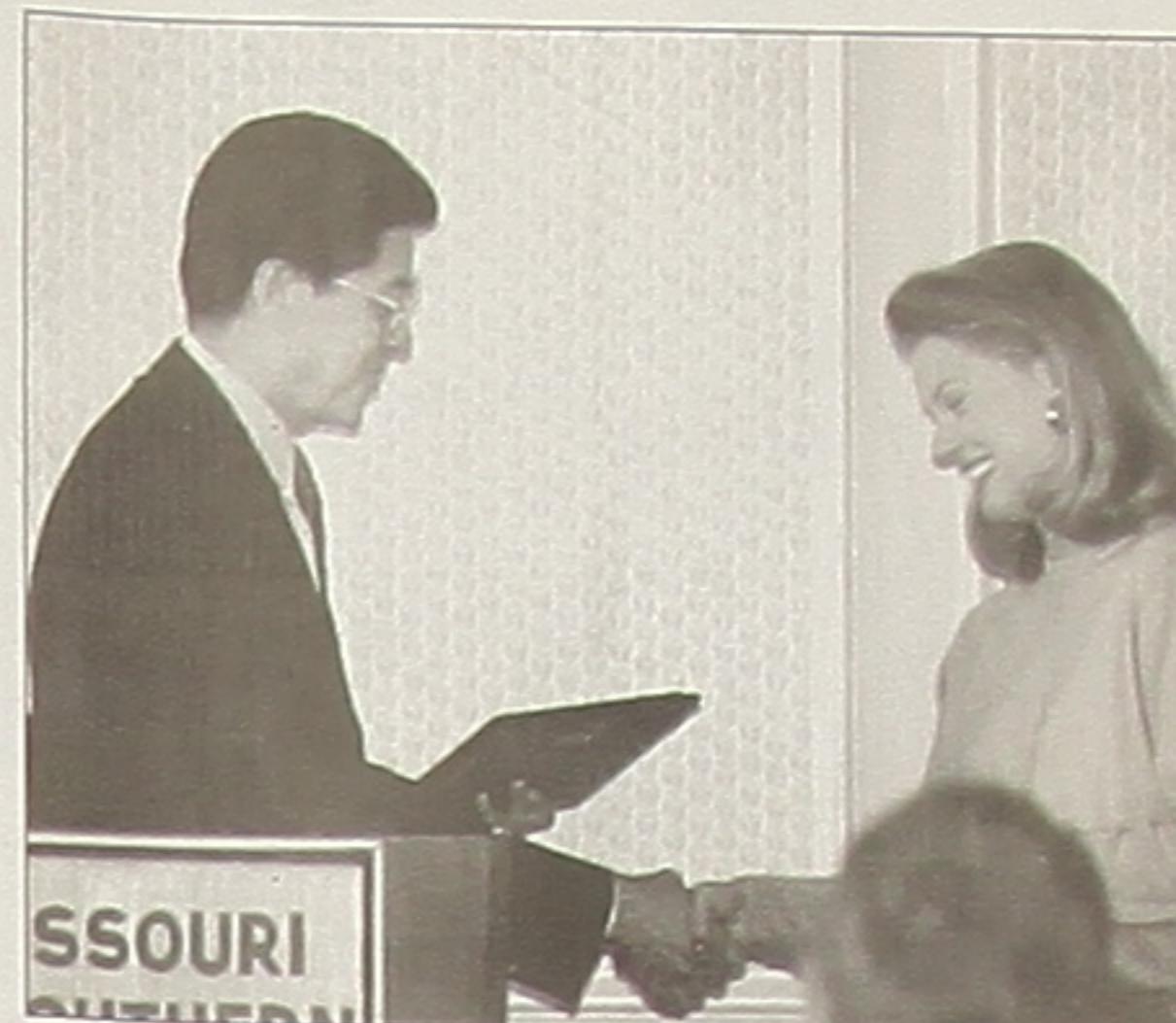
"I know there are a lot of other students who do as much or more than I do," she said. "Sometimes it feels like no one notices your hard work, so it's nice to know that someone recognizes and appreciates it."

Lawrence's campus activities include involvement with the honors program, Omicron Delta Kappa, and the Student Senate.

She choreographed music for the flag and dance lines and jazzed athletic spectators as the Lion mascot. She also enjoyed working with young people in a variety of community service projects, including 4-H.

"Education is important, but when you go to look for a job, they want to know how you relate to people," she said. "Being involved in a lot of campus and community activities taught me how to deal with people, how to fail and get back up again. I learned how to compete and how to work together."

Other students honored were: Andy Adams, Corey Bramlett, Rachal Brown, Jeff Daniel, Brandon Davidson, Erica Doennig, Joey Gann, Robin Geer, Lynell Gilbert, Derrick Good, Elizabeth Lovland, Grant Miller, Suzan Morang, Felicia Morley, Victoria Nelson, Jennifer Pease, Autumn Ross, Lisa Ross, Debra Schow, Michelle Stonis, Tracy Tate, Beth Warner, Blake Webster, and Kimberly Woodard. □



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Missouri Southern President Julio Leon honors Autumn Lawrence, senior chemistry major, with the Most Outstanding Leader award at the Sixth Annual Glenn D. Dolence Leadership/Service Award ceremony.

RETIREMENT

Prentice leaves after 24 years

By EILEEN COR
CHART REPORTER

Serving under all three Missouri Southern presidents has been the most momentous event witnessed by Dr. Vonne Prentice, professor of biology.

He has decided to retire at the end of the semester after 24 years at Southern.

"He's not going to be easy to replace," said Dr. John Messick, head of the biology department. "He has been truly an outstanding and extremely capable faculty member."

"I admire him most because of his presence in the classroom. He's an excellent, well-organized instructor."

While at Southern, Prentice took the Human Physiology and Anatomy course from sophomore level to the junior level. It went from principally an anatomy course to a course that emphasizes physiology. He then added the Molecular and Cellular course.

"Our curriculum has matured and has become more comprehensive," he said.

Prentice says he enjoys watching students come in the door as freshmen and leaving Southern as different individuals. He says he enjoys seeing "that there was a change, an education conferred on these people and to see them go to professional or graduate school, then come back to us and share some of their accomplishments."

His personal motto is to be "fair, firm, and friendly." He has tried to live by that throughout his teaching career.

"He has a good knowledge of his subject matter and he's interested in students," said Wayne Stebbins, associate professor of biology. "When one thinks of good college teachers, I'm sure they'll think of Dr. Prentice as one of the best."

The Missouri Southern Regional Fair was established in 1989 by Prentice, who served as its director until 1994. He has been the adviser for pre-med, pre-dental, and pre-pharmacy students and was one of the first members of the National Association for the Health Professions (NAAHP).

"He's the kind of person who relates to just about everybody," said Dr. Franklyn Adams, associate professor of biology. "He's a solid and responsible person with his feet on the ground, and sometimes he sees things we don't see. He's a resource and will be sorely missed." □



Prentice

DON'T DROP ME



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Peggy Thomas, freshman undecided major, is carted away in a mock EMT drill Tuesday near the Biology Pond. Brent Campbell (right), senior nursing major, moves Thomas with another EMT.

RETIREMENT

'Film guru' decides to fold up director's chair

By MARILYN HAZBOUN
CHART REPORTER

Thirty-nine years at one job sounds impossible, but Harrison Kash, assistant professor of chemistry, is a record setter at Missouri Southern.

James Maupin, who retired as dean of the school of technology in 1992, held the College record with 37 years of service to the institution.

Kash, who retires at the end of

this semester, came here in 1958 when Southern was a junior college.

He assisted with the move to the present location in 1967.

An organic chemist, Kash teaches a variety of chemistry courses.

"Back in 1959, I was a student of his in Chem I," said Bill Livingston, associate professor of mathematics and a friend of Kash's. "He was a thoughtful, caring, and precise teacher. I could relate to him."

When Livingston returned to

teach at Southern in 1968, Kash was one of his mentors.

"He totally runs the freshman chem lab," said Dr. Vernon Baiamonte, head of the department of physical sciences.

Kash orders the equipment and chemicals. He makes sure experiments are written up, and has written up experiments himself, Baiamonte said.

"He's always taken on these things himself to ensure that it's done," he said.

When not teaching chemistry, Kash spends time organizing the Missouri Southern Film Society. This school year marks the 35th Annual International Film Festival.

"The Missouri Southern Film Society actually grew out of a project that was originally handled through the Spiva Art Center," said Gwen Hunt, director of public information. "Spiva needed to go another direction, so the College became the sponsor and Harrison was the guru." □

BOARD OF REGENTS

Group discusses keeping pace with technology

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Technology was on the agenda at the Board of Regents meeting Friday. A presentation by Jim Gilbert, director of student financial aid, gave Board members a closer look at Missouri Southern's financial aid office.

"Our purpose is to make education available to those who can't afford to go to school," Gilbert said.

Keeping pace with technology is one of the focuses of the office, with 75 percent of student records electronically stored, according to Gilbert.

Not only do the updated services speed up the process, but they also help to decrease errors.

Gilbert said error rates between paper forms and electronic were very different in favor of electronic.

"It is interesting to note that 60 to 70 percent of Missouri Southern students receive some form of financial aid," said College President Julio Leon. "In addition to having the lowest tuition in the state, an average student pays much less because of institutional monies." □

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Departments schedule geography workshop

Enrollment is under way for Intersession '97, a 10-day session between spring and summer semesters at Missouri Southern.

Courses for one, two, or three credits will be offered during the Intersession, Monday, May 19 through May 30. Final examinations will be administered on Saturday, May 31. No classes will be held Monday, May 26, in recognition of Memorial Day.

Credit courses are being offered in art, communications, criminal justice, English, physical education, music, nursing, and social science.

Such courses as world cinema, art education, life guarding, biomedical ethics, and land use survey will be offered.

One-hour credit courses meet 90 minutes each day, two-hour classes meet three hours each day, and three-hour courses meet for four hours each day during the Intersession.

Cost is \$70 per credit hour for Missouri residents, or \$140 per credit hour for non-residents. Additional fees are included in some of the courses that involve travel.

For additional information or to enroll, persons may contact the registrar's office in Hearnes Hall Room 100, or call (417) 625-9389 or 1-800-606-MSSC. □

International Club plans food festival of diversity

Missouri Southern is now enrolling children for the second annual Children's Lifetime Sports Academy. The event will take place June 16-19.

Activities will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. each day in Young Gymnasium, Southern's athletic fields, the pool at Young Gymnasium, Range Line Golf, Bowl East, and Silver Wheels.

The children (ages 8-12) will receive basic instruction in a variety of lifetime sports, including archery, skating, golf, volleyball, bowling, Frisbee, and racquet sports. Children 11-12 will receive intermediate instruction in those sports. Swimming periods will be scheduled daily. Cost of the academy is \$50 per child and includes a camp T-shirt. All equipment is furnished by the Southern department of kinesiology.

To register or for additional information, persons may call (417) 625-9544. □

Career services offering seminar for job success

Missouri Southern theatre students will present eight one-act plays over two nights, Friday, May 9, and Saturday, May 10, in Taylor Performing Arts Center.

Performances begin at 7 p.m. each evening, and admission is free.

The students are members of a directing class taught by Dr. Jay Fields, head of Southern's theatre department.

On Friday, May 9, performances include *Hello From Bertha*, directed by Rachel Webb, Reed Springs, a junior secondary education major; *The Problem*, directed by Parade Heidleberg, Pierce City, a junior theatre major; *The Stonewater Rapture*, directed by Debbie Burbridge, Aurora, a sophomore theatre major; and *The Tie That Binds*, directed by Kate Walters, Joplin, a junior communications major.

Student-directed one-act plays performed on Saturday, May 10 will include *Dentity Crisis*, directed by Carry Stewart, Joplin, a sophomore theatre major; *A Way With Words*, directed by Shannon Ailey, Grove, Okla., a senior theatre major; *Rosemary With Ginger*, directed by Imma Curl, Joplin, a senior theatre major; and *For Whom the Southern Bell Tolls*, directed by Talana Sloan, Joplin, junior secondary education major. □

PUBLIC FORUM

Page 4A

Thursday, May 1, 1997

FAREWELL COLUMN

Graduation forces a mix of emotions

Returning to Missouri Southern is definitely among the few things I've done right in my life. Coming back after five years was overwhelming.

The minute my feet hit the campus, I shook with apprehension, wondering if I would fit in with the college crowd without sticking out like a sore thumb.

Well, thanks to a certain group of people, I had no trouble fitting in.

They took me, a 27-year-old mother of two, in like an orphaned puppy left on their doorstep and nurtured my interest in journalism. They made me a part of their world.

I've learned a lot from this adopted family of mine. In fact, had

it not been for their encouragement along the way, the hour-long commute every day would seem intolerable.

They made it worth the drive.

The Charties are a group of friends unmatched by anything I've ever encountered. I've never had so many people make such an impact on my life as they have. I love everyone of them: Rick, Nick, Debbie, Genie, Ryan, Ginny, Spice, Aaron, Leslie, Margo, Kevin, Michelle, John, Teresa — oh, and Jake, too. Also lumped in with this altruistic and philanthropic group is our adviser and friend, Dr. Chad Stebbins, who pushed and prodded me through my college career, keeping me on course. Last spring, he and his wife, Debbie, would watch my two boys, along with their three, every Tuesday night so I could design my page. The Charties also braved my children on occasion; they watched them in *The Chart* office one Wednesday night, while trying to put a paper together, just so I could cover a late-breaking story. Now that is above and beyond the expectations, don't you think?

The Charties have proven there is still goodness in the world, even among the younger generation. I've watched them adopt a 76-year-old student as a grandma, and I've seen them share a pizza with members of the custodial staff.

They are not your everyday, run-of-the-mill office clique. Yeah, they stick together, but you'll never find a more receptive group.

Two years ago, graduation seemed eons away, but now I find myself facing my last two weeks.

Graduation will be a glorious occasion; it is something I've anticipated for a long time. But leaving Southern, for me, will be a sad one. I've grown accustomed to my life and my friends here.

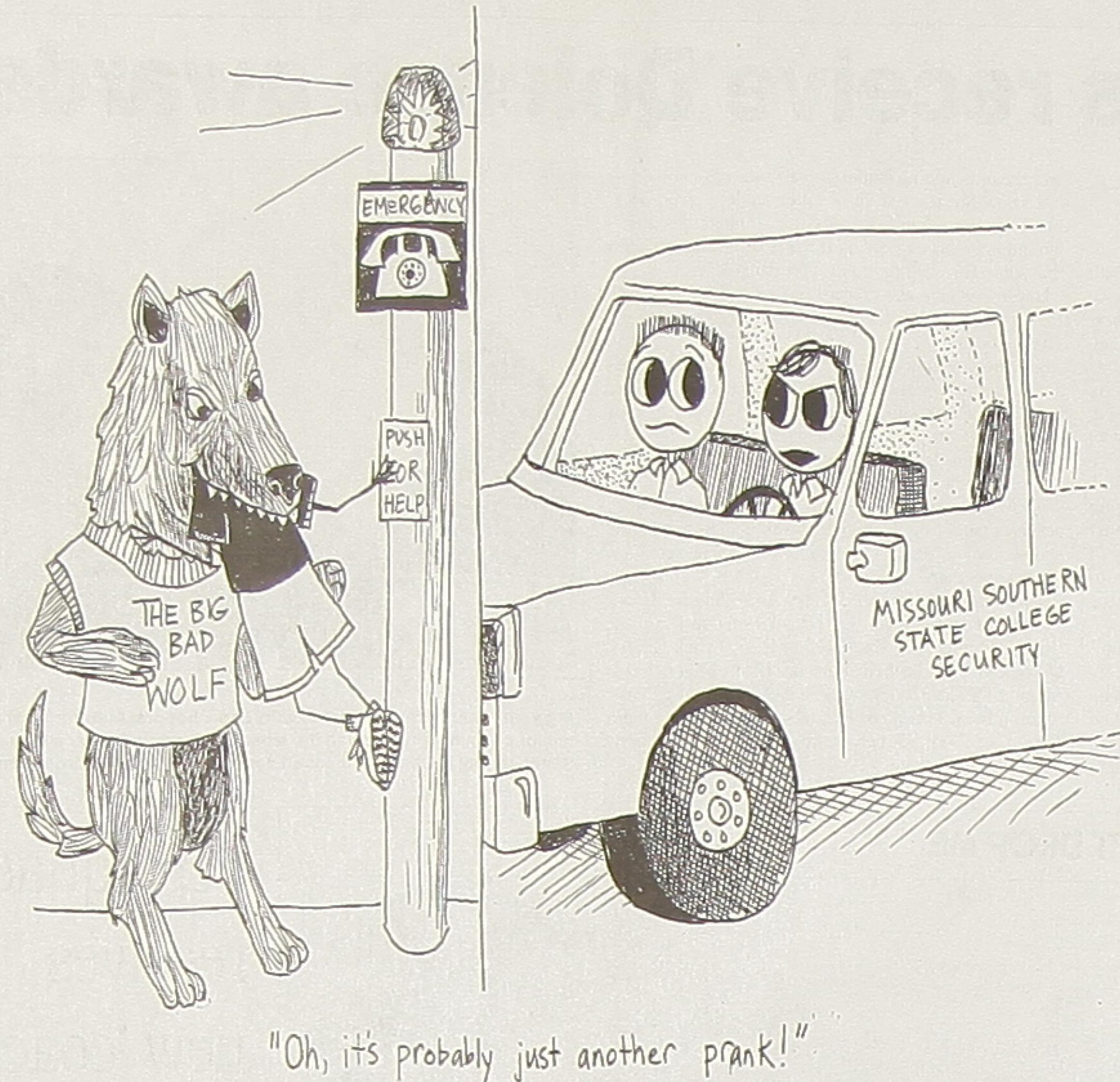
I think the reality hit me the hardest during one of our staff meetings when Dr. Stebbins put a list of next semester's editors and staff members on the overhead projector.

My name, of course, was not there. Not seeing my name on that list was like receiving a stake to the heart.

The thought of not being here to share the next year with my extended family made the tears swell and my heart begin to ache.

They are the security blanket I've been clutching for the past two years, and it will be hard to let them go. Sure, I could turn some of them over my knee or give them a good spanking every now and again, but I wouldn't trade them for anything.

So Charties, please know that I love you all, and as your "pseudo mom," if you are ever in my neighborhood, there will always be a spot for you at my dinner table. □



OUR EDITORIALS

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of *The Chart* editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Let's end this nonsense

Apparently Missouri Southern students just can't grasp the nuances of maturity. To be labeled as an adult, one must take on certain responsibilities and give up activities that could be tagged as misbehaving.

To put this in language which is both simple and concise — stop pranking the emergency phone.

If you do not have an emergency, do not touch the little button on the console.

It's that easy.

There is a reason there is only one emergency phone on campus. College officials don't trust the student body to be responsible.

They believe the students will generally misbehave and abuse the emergency phone.

So far they have been right.

Students have not shown the proper decorum around the emergency phone. Pressing the button and running off is so utterly juvenile, yet students continue to do it.

What is the thought process of students who do this? Are they curious to see if anyone really will answer?

Well, we have assurances from the administration that it does work. It obviously works, otherwise the security officers wouldn't be so tired of answering the phone and finding nobody on the other end.

Certainly the story of the little boy who cried wolf rings a bell.

Some day there will be an emergency worthy of pressing that button and nobody will pick it up.

Or somebody will prank the emergency phone and tie up the line while another person with a true emergency is trying to dial in. □

Another year, another farewell

It's been an intriguing year to say the least. It's almost at an end, and it will definitely be a year many will remember.

Missouri Southern continues to grow with the Anderson Justice Center additions in full swing.

And the much-needed additions and renovations to Spiva Library could be funded next year.

The campus is abuzz with the thought of what the administration has in store for next year's China semester.

The two-day Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium was a brilliant precursor to what's on tap.

It's not every day this region is allowed to come face to face with the movers and shakers of the global community.

In a mediocre athletic year, we saw two of Southern's finest football players receive national exposure with Richard Jordan being drafted by the Detroit Lions and James Thrash being asked to play with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Additionally, the sports information office is finally under the direction of someone all the media in town can respect. However, this year was not without its upsets.

The unexpected firing of women's basketball coach Carrie Kaifes left a sour taste in the mouth of all who enjoy quality athletics.

Speaking of departures, *The Chart* will be losing three of its finest editors. Ryan Bronson came to us in 1994 from the northern reaches of Idaho as our managing editor.

He brought this paper to new heights with an uncanny sense of visual flair.

Stephanie Goad's second stint as an editor at *The Chart* is one that can serve as a guide for future editors.

Nothing was ever too big, or too small, for her to accomplish.

She was the most dependable of all the editors and reporters on this staff. She is a good example of how a mother-of-two can succeed in collegiate journalism.

Leslie Roberts came up with the wacky idea to start an automotive page.

After the laughter subsided, it became quite apparent it was one of the best ideas ever to hit *The Chart*. The automotive page, under her guidance, has quickly become one of the most popular pages in the newspaper.

Each of the graduating seniors on *The Chart* staff will leave a lasting impression on this newspaper, and we thank them for it.

Ryan, Stephanie, and Leslie, thanks for everything and good luck. □

FAREWELL COLUMN

I am ready to hang up the book bag

I just finished a questionnaire in one of my classes. The class is one of those required sophomore classes that I forgot to take when I was a sophomore, and the questionnaire concerned

"How I could be a better student."

Needless to say, this is a bad subject to approach a graduating senior with during the last three weeks of the semester, unless he or she happens to be going to graduate school and actually cares.

The questionnaire was filled out quickly, honestly, and with a modicum of comments; in reality, quite the way I wrote the first draft of this column. It simply said, "It's been fun. It's time to go. Bye." I showed this draft to *The Chart* faculty adviser, who said in his droll fashion, "Well, it has to be 550 words. You'd just have to copy and paste it over and over again." So this is the second draft.

I suppose I should say that I'm really sorry to be leaving all this behind, but I can't. I am certainly glad to have had this experience, and there will be people I know that I will miss, but I can't be too sad.

For the first time since age 5, I will be free to live my life without worrying about school.

I'm going to find a job that doesn't require me to take work home, and it will be wonderful to actually be able to keep the house clean or wash the car occasionally without worrying about what paper I should be writing or assignment I should be doing.

As most of you probably know, I want to work for an automotive magazine. My dream of getting a 1963-67 Corvette Sting Ray roadster for a graduation present probably won't come true unless I get a job at a magazine that can afford to pay starting employees well.

Even if that happens, I'll have to put the car off for a few more years — maybe it can be a "having-paid-off-the-college-loans" present.

But a magazine job almost certainly means moving away.

As I was commuting this morning, Missouri was too beautiful to leave — mist was rising off tender fields of wheat, the sun warming the well-tended fields, the sky a piercing shade of blue. After living in this place for 23 years, I do not look eagerly at leaving.

On the other hand, if I stay here, I won't be using my degree in the way I intended.

It's sad to say, but I tried small-town news writing, and I don't like it. I can't help it that I'm not a news hound, I guess.

Possibly the news-hound trait is really genetic, and if you're not born with it, then too bad.

What I really enjoy is experiencing vehicles and then expressing my opinion about them.

Writing is just part of the fun of producing a publication, though. I enjoy arguing the finer points of grammar and style with people who care, and so many other aspects of publishing.

To really do this, though, I'll have to make some sacrifices — moving away from home, maybe accepting low pay for the first few years — but in the long term, I think they will be worthwhile.

Life's too short to waste on a job you don't enjoy! □



Leslie
Roberts
Automotive
Editor

Recruits to sign letters of intent

By RHONDA CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Already framed with students' photos, the bulletin board in the honors program office will soon add new faces.

Today, a record 50 to 55 future freshmen will sign letters of intent to the program in the Billingsly Student Center.

Missouri Southern's honors signing ceremony originated some 10 years ago. Dr. Pat Kluthe, assistant director of the honors program, said College President Julio Leon wanted a ceremony with the same tradition as an athlete's signing.

"He is well aware that schools have an athletic signing situation bringing in named athletes and athletes with tremendous talent who are going to have an impact on the culture of the college or university," she said. "He believes in that same way, incoming scholars are going to have an impact on the culture and the community of this college."

The expected order of events are the official signing at 11 a.m. followed by a publicity session with local and hometown media. An informal reception precedes a luncheon allowing the future students to meet current honors students, honors faculty, deans of the various schools, and administrators.

Dr. David Ackiss, director of the honors program, will deliver an invitation for students to become a part of the College both socially and intellectually.

Kluthe said Southern actively recruits these top students.

"The marketplace for scholars is a wild and complex place at this point," she said.

"There are recruiters from every major university and college, not only in the state system, but also in the regional and national system."

Kluthe believes the benefit of recruiting the "brightest and best scholars" creates a catalyst on a campus to promote academic excellence. She said these students help raise the overall averages at the colleges.

Leadership is another value sought in hopes these students will motivate their fellow classmates to excel.

Nathan Ross, freshman criminal justice major, remembers his signing ceremony in 1996 as being a pleasant and formal ceremony.

He believes he has received many benefits from the honors program.

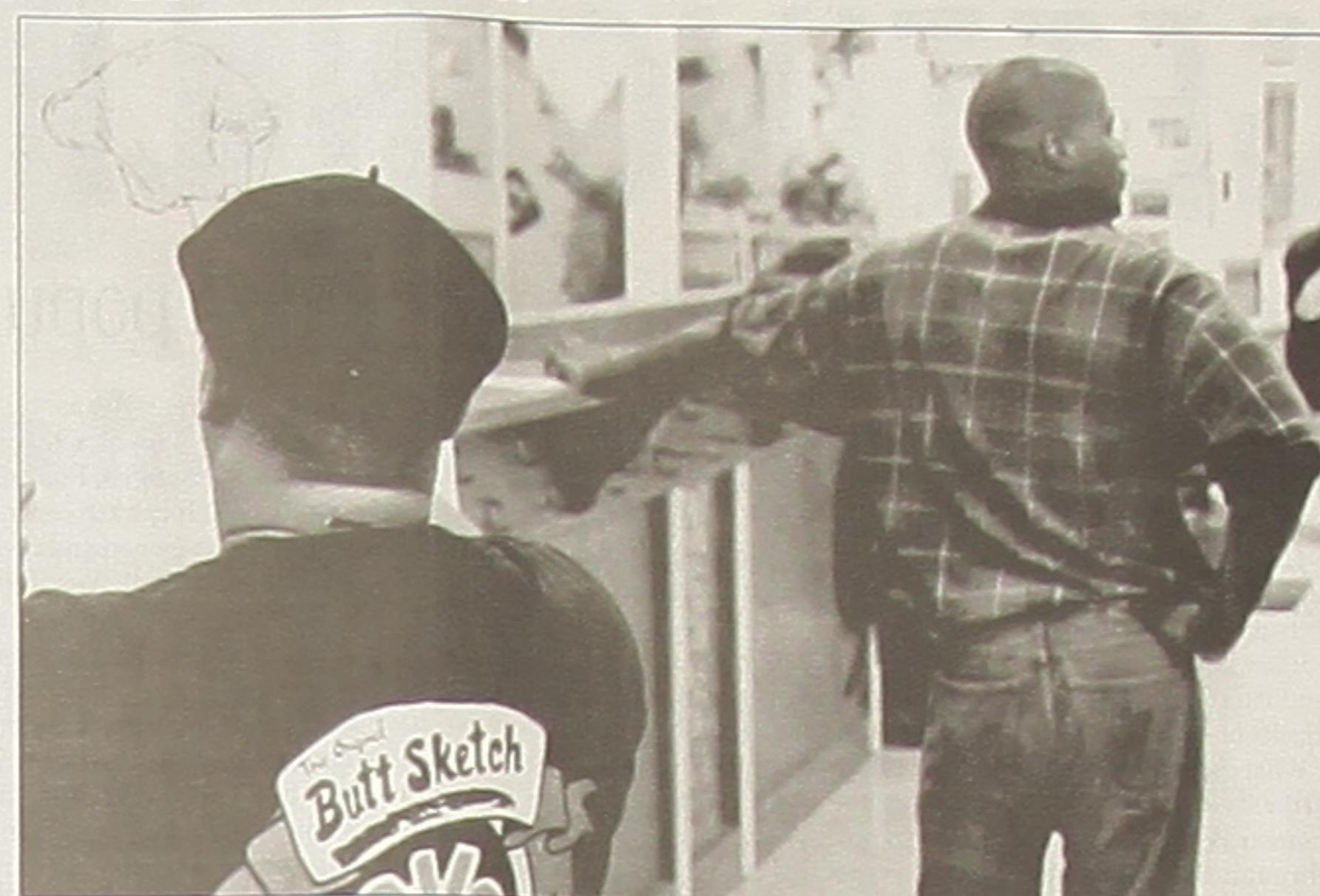
"It helps overachievers and gives them an outlet to where they can overachieve," he said.

Eligibility for the program is a 28 on the ACT or a 3.5 grade-point average.

The College usually admits 20 to 40 percent of incoming freshmen who apply for the program, depending on the pool of applicants.

"Actually, this year is a big year," Kluthe said. "With 50 to 60 being admitted, it's a banner year. Usually, we admit anywhere from 35 to 40 students, but this year is a special kind of year." □

NO 'BUTTS' ABOUT IT



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Latin America focus of new course

By SCOTT HAAR
STAFF WRITER

Colonial Latin America will be the focus of a new course offered by the department of social science next fall.

However, students enrolled in the class can expect anything but a normal time line and event history course.

"I did not become a historian because I like to memorize names and dates," said Larry Cebula, assistant professor of history and instructor of the new course. "I want my students to think about why things are and how they came to be."

The course will focus on the effects colonization had on the cultures of Latin America. Cebula said one of the

more interesting topics concerns the combining of Spanish conquerors with the natives of ancient Latin America.

Cebula said sharp divides did not exist between the races as they periodically occur in modern Western culture.

"The people of colonial Latin America were more open to the fact that inter-racial mixing was a part of society," he said. Cebula said class activities will attempt to place students in the roles of persons living during that time.

"There will be a lot of non-lecture material including films and slides," he said. "Discussions will also be a part of our course material."

Other areas explored in the semester include the church in Latin American history, conquistadors and their interaction with the Aztecs, and native labor. □

GEOGRAPHY

'New' minor receives course enhancement

Students must take
21 hours for minor

By STEPHANIE WARD
EDUCATION EDITOR

New classes have been added to help enhance the subject of geography.

The existing geography minor was revised to better reflect the courses and the subject.

Dr. Binita Sinha said the geography minor isn't new to Missouri Southern. She thought it didn't represent the subject of geography.

"It was not a true reflection of the subject," said Sinha, assistant professor of geography.

"It was there, but we just revised it."

"I don't think anybody was aware that we had a minor," said Dr. Karl Schmidt, assistant professor of history.

Schmidt said he surveyed geography minors at other colleges and universities in order to have a better idea of what they should do to revise Southern's minor.

The "new" minor will require 21 hours of classes. Students will take 12 credit hours of required "core" classes for the minor and then nine hours from electives in the minor.

These selections will vary each semester.

"Every semester, Regions and Nations and Human and Cultural Geography will be there because these are the core courses," Sinha said, "but then from the electives there are the other courses offered so the student can have the choice of what to take."

The two elective sections have been titled regional and systematic. In regional geography, Sinha said, one picks a place, a region or a country, and studies everything about it. In systematic geography, one takes a topic and studies what it is and how it varies from place to place. She said it is more of a topical study.

Sinha said these two areas will give students more broad or specific areas to study.

66

...it gives
[students] the
opportunity to
know and
understand the
world.

Dr. Binita Sinha
Assistant professor,
geography

99

"I think it's worthwhile," Dr. Sara Sale, associate professor of history, said about the minor. "I think it's much stronger." Sale will help teach a geography class in the minor next fall.

Other classes will be taught by Sinha, Schmidt, and Dr. John Knapp, associate professor of geophysics.

Both Schmidt and Sinha said they think the international mission at Southern and the internationalization of the world as well will play a role in the interest of geography.

"Geography is very interdisciplinary," Sinha said. "If somebody knows how to draw maps, that in itself will be a big advantage in finding a job...geography teaches that. That's a basic part of geography."

"Somebody said, if you cannot map it, it's not geography."

Sinha named some of the jobs a student could find with the minor in geography.

They include national, state and local governments, federal agencies, the Soil and Conservation Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, and NASA.

"Geography is a very interesting subject and very fascinating if you come to it with an open mind and not be intimidated by it, because it gives [students] the opportunity to know and to understand the world," Sinha said. □

HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEFS

SMSU to offer bachelor's program in anthropology

A new program offering a bachelor of arts and bachelor of science in anthropology has been approved by the Board of Governors at Southwest Missouri State University.

According to Dr. Bill Wedenoja, program director and professor of anthropology, demand for the major has been growing for years. In the past, students have had to settle for minoring in anthropology or creating an individualized degree program. Now that the degree is available, the department expects to have an initial class of around 200 majors this fall.

The department is currently in the midst of preparing new courses and hiring new faculty to help meet the demands of the new degree program.

Wedenoja believes the new degree, coupled with an already well-developed curriculum, will help prepare undergraduate anthropology students for the demanding requirements of a master's or doctoral program, and will equip them with marketable skills in the process.

"The opportunities in archaeology, for instance, are terrific for undergraduates," he says. "Students here can get plenty of hands-on experience." □

NWSU president named for education awards

Dr. Dean Hubbard, president of Northwest Missouri State University, has been named to two prestigious commissions.

Richard Riley, President Clinton's secretary of education, has named Hubbard to the Advisory Council on Education Statistics. The Council, which is within the National Center for Education Statistics, will review general policies of the operation of the Center and advise the commissioner of education statistics on standards.

Hubbard is one of 18 members of the Council who were appointed by Riley. He will serve a three-year term.

Hubbard has also been appointed as a member of the Commission on Leadership Development effective immediately and running through Dec. 31, 1999. The Commission is appointed by the American Council on Education, the nation's higher education association. □

Science-religion course ranked in top hundred

Southeast Missouri State University's "Science and Religion" course is among the top 100 science-religion courses taught in the world.

Team-instructors for the interdisciplinary course, Dr. Allen Gathman, assistant professor of biology, and Dr. Andrew Pratt, campus minister and part-time instructor in the department of philosophy and religion, recently received the Templeton Award, which annually recognizes the world's 100 best courses in science and religion.

Courses are evaluated for scholarship — a syllabus that reflects solid bibliography, a strong reading list, lectures, and library resources. Courses are also evaluated for emphasis on current developments in the natural sciences and inclusion of philosophical and historical aspects of the science-religion relationship.

Judges also look for balanced treatment of the science and religion dialogue. Both scientific and religious perspectives must be presented.

The Templeton Foundation has awarded \$5,000 to Southeast and \$5,000 to Pratt and Gathman, who will split the award. As award winners, Pratt and Gathman have been asked to serve as resource personnel at a Templeton workshop in June in Chicago. □

This is the last issue of The Chart for the spring semester...See you in the fall!

TO FACULTY AND STAFF

SPRING FLING PICNIC

FRIDAY MAY 2 10:45-1:15
FRONT CAMPUS

MENU WILL INCLUDE:

SPICY CHICKEN SANDWICHES (WENDYS),
HAMBURGERS, POTATO SALAD, BAKED BEANS, FRESH FRUIT, CHIPS, ICE CREAM.

NIK FRISING WILL BE ON HAND TO DO CARICATURES, AND THE BOOKSTORE WILL BE HOLDING A SPRING CLEANING SALE, WITH DRATIC REDUCATIONS ON MSSC CLOTHING AND OTHER ITEMS.

AT 11:30 THE ARMY WILL HAVE A SHINOOK HELICOPTER, SOME HUM-VEES, VARIOUS WEAPONS AND MP'S TO OVERSEE EVERYTHING, ON THE STUDENT LIFE CENTER LAWN.

FREE TO MSSC FACULTY, STAFF, & STUDENTS WITH ID. \$5 OTHERS.

SPRING FLING DANCE

(Red, White and Blue Theme)

Friday, May 2 • 8 p.m.- 1 a.m.

BSC Lion's Den

Music by Howie Baby

Prizes and Refreshments

THE
CHART
AROUND CAMPUS

STUDENT LIFE

GETTING IN-LINE

Rollerblading, street hockey enjoy popularity

By SCOTT FRANCIS
STAFF WRITER

A quick intake of breath. Bdmpl, bdmpl, bdmpl. An expectant silence ensues. Then, a bone-jarring thud — followed by muttered curses — as the fallen one gets up and tries it again.

Elsewhere, the screams of excited fans muffle the grunts and exertions of players who themselves cover over noisy clacks of sticks and quiet whooshes and skids of rubber.

What do these sights and sounds have in common? They are very different, yet both part of the same sports phenomenon that has quietly (or not so quietly) swept through the four-state area in the past few years.

In-line skating, or rollerblading as it is sometimes called, is like many other trends in that it's been popular in bigger cities and on the coasts for several years and is finally gaining a following in the Joplin area.

Freestyle skating and roller hockey represent two completely different sides of this sport, and both sides have become increasingly popular in the four-state area.

Nathan Bemo, a 22-year-old junior business major, is the owner/operator of Bemo's Barnside Skatepark, which happens to be located in his backyard.

"I started building the park because I've always had an interest in freestyle skateboarding, but I started having friends with BMX bikes and blades (in-line skates) come over to use the ramps a lot, too," he said. "Now we have a big party the second Saturday of every month, and we have semi-pro guys come from Kansas City and other places to compete and give shows. Some of the bladers are really excellent."

Freestyle refers to not just rollerblading but more traditionally to skateboarding and also to BMX. Freestyle usually involves a curved ramp or series of ramps called a "halfpipe." In freestyle, skaters start at the edge of the halfpipe and skate down one side of the ramp and up the other, using gravity to build their momentum. If done properly, a skater can built enough speed to become airborne on either side of the halfpipe.

At that point, the excitement, difficulty and risk of freestyle become apparent. The challenge of freestyle is to combine aerial maneuvers such as flips, twists and slides with a landing that lets the skater repeat the process on the other side of the ramp.

John Witt, 20, is a junior broadcasting major at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark., but is originally from Longmont, Colo.

"My brother and some friends and I work on our halfpipe every summer," Witt said.

"It's the most exciting sport I can think of, mostly because there's always something new you can try, or a different way to do something old."

Freestyle has become much more popular and widespread due to recent publicity from events such as ESPN's "X Games" and through televised national and world championships.

Its only requirements are a full complement of pads, a pair of skates, and a willingness to fall down and get back up over and over.

In addition, it has become increasingly popular in areas where people like to play hockey but have little or no access to an ice rink.

Other than using the same basic footwear, roller hockey is in a completely different world than freestyle. It is much more similar in theory and in practice to its older cousin, ice hockey.

"It takes more finesse than freestyle, as well as the ability to think ahead and work as part of a team," said Brian "B.J." Johnson, 23, who manages Four States Roller Hockey, located at Fifth and Murphy in Joplin.

Four States Roller Hockey is owned and operated cooperatively by Jean Bouma, Arlene and Wes Plume, and John Lickman. Formerly Joplin Outdoor Hockey, the name was changed when the shop changed hands and reopened last July.

"Now we have three leagues, with fourteen teams total. We can get people of any age into a league. We have players from ages 4 to 50," said Johnson. "But the best response by far is from little kids, mostly in our 5- to 11-year-old age group, where we've got 40 enrolled already. That's what makes me think this sport will really be hot a few years down the road."

Johnson said that January would be one of the biggest seasons ever, with televised ice hockey capturing everyone's attention and boosting excitement about the sport.

"We have leagues going on all the time, and plenty of people at every age and skill level to play with," he said. "It's a lot less violent than ice hockey; the refs don't allow as much contact, so there's fewer injuries, which seems to reassure parents, too."

Four States Roller Hockey helps to sponsor Joplin's All-Star team, the Joplin Rage.

Adrian Stanley, 17, and Scott Duvall, 20, are both members of the team.

"I think that they (the owners/operators of Four States Roller Hockey) are really innovative, considering the size of Joplin and the way this general area is a little behind on new trends," Stanley said.

"I mean, it's kind of surprising that we have such a good hockey shop here instead of Springfield or Kansas City."

A smaller population to draw on hasn't hurt the Rage's talent, however. The team has competed at the national level more than once, and several players have been chosen for national all-star and all-conference teams.

"We've been to nationals a couple of times," said Duvall. "It was a great experience for us, even though most of the teams there were on a higher level than we were."

"I guess that's the only way to get better, to play teams that are a lot better than you are."

Another aspect of in-line skating, and one enjoyed by many casual skaters, is street skating. Street is just another word for getting out on your rollerblades and just skating around. It doesn't take a ramp like freestyle or a team like hockey. Just you and your rollerblades and a smooth stretch of concrete (and some wrist guards, if you're smart).

This kind of skating is popular among college students, especially those who live on campus.

"It's a lot more fun than walking, besides being better exercise," said Farra Niehoff, sophomore undeclared major.

"I'm not an expert yet, by any means, but it's still fun to just get out and skate with friends," she said.

Brian Sage agrees. Sage, 20, is a junior graphic design major at John Brown University.

"I've had my blades for about three years, and I love them just as much now as when I first got them, if not more. They're just a lot of fun to get out on, and I'd recommend them to anybody who's ever considered buying a pair," he said.

"My friends that skate and I go blading at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville all the time. They've got a great campus for skating: lots of stairs, miles of sidewalks, acres of parking lots, and obstacles for the brave, or foolish."

Between the artistry of freestyle, the team sports competition aspect of roller hockey, and the widespread appeal of street skating, in-line skating has something to offer almost everyone.

So, if Santa didn't bring you a pair of skates last Christmas, it may be because he's wearing them himself. □

Today 1

- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Free photo key chains, BSC 2nd floor
- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Koinonia Lunch, basement of Stegge Hall
- 6:30 p.m.—Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting, BSC, 2nd floor lounge
- 7 p.m.—Zeta Tau Alpha meeting, Panhellenic room • Baptist Student Union, Thursday Night Together, BSC Building
- 7:30 p.m.—Hanover Band, Taylor Performing Arts Center

Friday 2

- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.—All-campus picnic, includes caricature drawings, bookstore sale, and Chinook helicopter
- 11:00 a.m.—Chi Alpha meeting, Webster Hall, Room 115
- Noon to 10 p.m.—Lionpalooza bands presentation, front campus
- 8 p.m.—Spring Fling Dance, Lion's Den

Saturday 3

- Track in MIAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships
- Kappa Alpha Basketball tournament, 4-Seasons Sports Complex
- Young Author's Conference, BSC 3rd floor

Sunday 4

- 2:30 p.m.—Jazz in Joplin Trio Grande, Webster auditorium
- 6 p.m.—Newman Club meeting, St. Peter's Catholic Church, 8th and Pearl
- 7 p.m.—Sigma Pi meeting, Stegge Hall basement • Alpha Sigma Alpha meeting, Panhellenic Room

Monday 5

- Last day for full withdrawal
- Joplin Globe fundraiser, BSC 3rd floor
- 7 p.m.—Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union Building
- 7:30 p.m.—Orchestra concert, Taylor Performing Arts Center
- 9 p.m.—On-Campus Bible Study, Apt. H-7, Stone Hall

Tuesday 6

- Noon— Latter-Day Saints Student Association meeting, BSC, Room 313
- 12:15 p.m.—Non-traditional student brown bag lunch, Hearnes Hall, Room 211
- 12:20 p.m.—College Republicans meeting, BSC, Room 311
- 2:15 p.m.—Chi Alpha meeting, BSC, Room 311
- 7 p.m.—Koinonia main meeting, College Heights Christian Church

Wednesday 7

- Last Day of Class!
- Honors convocation
- 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.—CAB sponsors "Big Thing", Student Life Center
- Noon—Psychology Club, Taylor Hall, Room 123
- CAB general board meeting, BSC Room 311

Model Arab League brings home multiple awards including Best Delegation

By HEATHER DEMIER
STAFF WRITER

Missouri Southern's Model Arab League was selected as "best delegation" for the second year in a row at the 1997 Great Plains Conference in Iowa.

The organization represented Palestine and sponsored more than 20 resolutions that will be reviewed by the actual League of Arab States in Cairo.

Kimberly Lawry, senior sociology major, was one of four members to receive an individual award at the annual conference. Lawry was selected by the faculty advisers as "outstanding chairperson" for her effective role as chair in her committee.

The reason we got "best delegation" was because we had three "best delegates" and the "outstanding chair," and that's unusual for a school, especially for Missouri Southern's size, to have that many awards given to specific people," Lawry said.

Jennifer Hurn, Alicia Nielsen, and Nick Prewett were selected "best delegate" for their respective committees.

Other participants included Caleb Browning, Chad Galbraith, Katherine Ray, and Sara Smith.

The resolutions that Missouri passes are

sent to the League of Arab States and then they read them over and can pass them in the actual League," Lawry said. "In that way, Missouri Southern affects the world policy."

Lawry has been offered an internship with the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations and is awaiting further details.

"I think I'll be working for Partnership for Peace, which is an organization that helps educate Americans about the Palestine and Israeli conflict," she said.

The nine-week internship takes place in Washington, D.C. this summer. Lawry said she received the offer as a result of attending the Arab League.

Nick Prewett, sophomore political science major, received an individual award for "outstanding delegate" in the economic affairs committee.

The awards are based on your speaking ability, your diplomatic courtesy, and your ability to actually pass resolutions in the committee," he said.

Prewett plans to attend graduate school. He would like to work for the State Department and become a diplomat or an ambassador.

"I like the overall experience because around here we deal with Israeli-Arab conflicts more on the Israeli side," Prewett said. "By doing Arab League, you actually get to see and feel the emotions that a lot of the Arab countries have."

Lawry said the members and Dr. Conrad Gubera, the group's faculty adviser, would like to extend their gratitude to College President Julio Leon for making this conference possible. □

CAMPUS GROUP

League receives second consecutive regional honor

Model Arab League brings home multiple awards including Best Delegation

By HEATHER DEMIER
STAFF WRITER

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The resolutions that Missouri passes are

CAMPUS CONCERN

Students seek out activities

By BETH HAMILTON
CHART REPORTER

Talking to people on campus, one may hear a recurring complaint — there isn't anything to do here. There is nothing to do on campus, and nothing to do in Joplin. Is it boring here? The answer depends on who is asked.

Spencer Beck, senior communications major, is president of the Campus Activities Board and lives in the residence halls.

"When I first got to college, I didn't like it very well; I didn't really do anything," Beck said. "I would just eat and sleep and go back and sit in my room. Then I got involved in Koinonia and CAB and the Student Senate, and I enjoyed going to school and classes."

"I enjoyed being around people. I'm more outgoing now. It's more fun to be here at college."

Besides the fact that Missouri Southern is a smaller college, there is another factor that contributes — a large commuter enrollment.

"I don't think it's a true college campus because the fraternities and sororities aren't on campus to be able to support the athletic events," says Brad Ward, junior marketing major. "I think this school is kind of segregated because a lot of people don't live here [at the College] so it's not really a true college campus such as Pittsburg State or a big university."

Brandi Naden, sophomore elementary education major and commuter student, also believes the large number of commuters adversely affects campus participation.

"Because of all the commuters, a lot of the students don't get involved in the campus activities I'm involved in, such as FCA."

Has anyone mentioned the new Student Life Center? The center is open to all Southern students. Among other things, it has a weight room, a television room with a VCR, and a computer room.

"I think the Student Life Center is good, but I don't think many students take advantage of it," said Eva Smothers, sophomore nursing major who lives on campus.

Renee Hochstetler, a junior communications major from Minnesota, says she just doesn't think there is much to do here.

"I think they need to have more involvement in campus activities besides just sports and stuff around here," she says. "There's nothing for people to do or places for them to go."

Adam McKellips, a junior physical education major, says "I think it's boring here because everyone goes home on the weekends; there is nothing to do."

Not everyone agrees with this, however. Some think activities are available.

"There's quite a bit to do if you look hard enough," says Galen Wilkinson, junior pre-engineering major.

Sophomore business major Jared Earl thinks there is a way to have fun.

"I can't really think of anything that's fun on campus," he says. "Everything fun happens at my house."

"There's really nowhere to go in Joplin if you're underage," he says. "I'd like it if there were a dance club that you could get into if you're under 21. Pittsburg was the only place you could go if you were underage, but I think they have gotten really strict, too."

Is Joplin that dull? Casey McCoy, senior sociology major, doesn't think it is that bad, as far as activities are concerned.

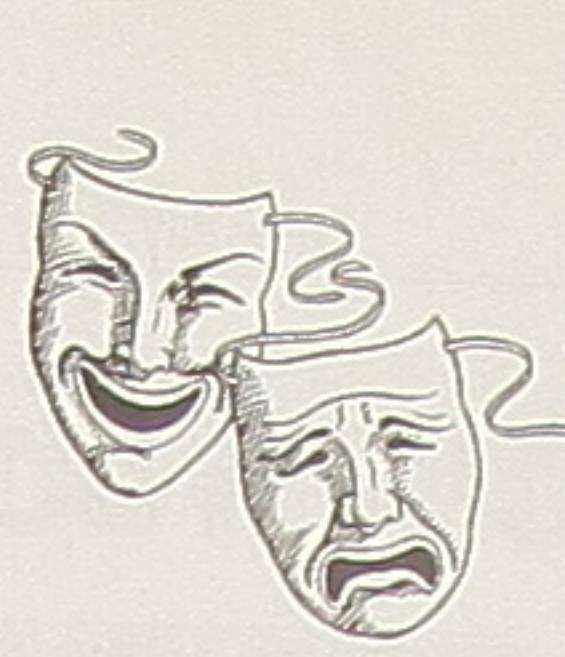
"It seems like there is the normal stuff to do, like bowling and stuff," she says. "I don't think it's as boring as people say."

As far as clubs and organizations on campus go, McCoy says her sorority, Alpha Sigma Alpha, is a "good way to meet people."

Andrew Hill, senior marketing management major, doesn't think there are many fun campus activities.

"I've been here for five years, and in my five years there has not been any real campus life or campus activities that I've seen," he says. "That's partially due to the fact that there's no campus. Southern is a commuter college."

"I've noticed that they have the Spring Fling, and that's the only thing that almost everybody participates in on campus." □



Arts ETC.

Thursday May 1, 1997

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POTTERY SALE

Artists sell wares for money, recognition



Melissa Newberry, sophomore graphic arts major, is one of several art students displaying and selling their pots during the pottery sale.

MICHELLE CONTY/The Chart

By RHONDA CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Unique items line the shelves in the lobby of the Art Building as students market their wares in the pottery show and sale.

"It's competitive because you are putting your work out in front of the public and putting your work out next to your pottery mate and it's just a great learning experience," said Jon Fowler, professor of art.

Held each semester, the spring event ends Wednesday. The featured pieces, crafted by 10 students, are functional stone ware pottery and decorative Raku. Prices range from \$5 to \$75. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

All proceeds from the sale go to the artists. Gary Crim, senior art education major, said the sale helps students with educational expenses and features their art.

"It lets people know what we are

doing down here and makes some money for the students," he said.

Fowler organized the event, but he said the students are responsible for the everyday operation.

"Everything here is from their (students') imaginations and their throwing skills," Fowler said. "I tell them they can make anything in this class that they are capable of making."

He said the students spend many hours on each project, not only in class but also in the evenings and on weekends. Fowler said clay is therapeutic.

From 3 to 5:30 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday, a demonstration of Raku, a 16th century Japanese pottery technique, takes place north of the Art Building.

A smoky scent fills the art lobby, a by-product of Raku, which means "happiness through chance." The pots go from a red-hot kiln to sealed containers filled with straw, sawdust, or paper and react with the smoke. The pieces are fast cooled in water.

"It's just a trial and error thing,

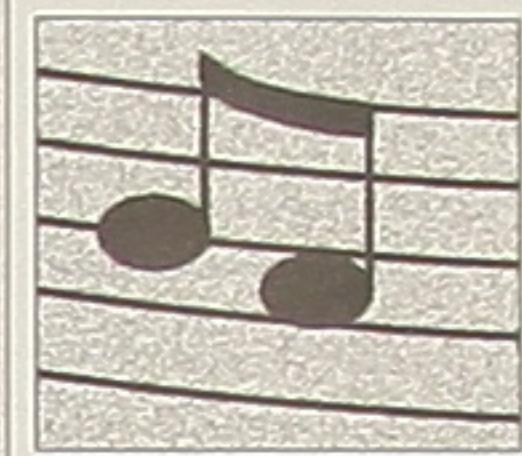
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It let's people know what we are doing down here...

Gary Crim
Senior art major

Coming ATTRACTIONS

On Campus



Concert

■ Friday — Lionpalooza, noon, in the campus oval during picnic

TAYLOR AUDITORIUM

May 1—Hanover Band Concert - Nicholas McGegan

May 5—Orchestra Concert

May 8—Choir Concert

WEBSTER AUDITORIUM

May 4—Jazz in Joplin—Trio Grande

May 10—Jazz Band Concert

PHINNEY RECITAL HALL

May 15—Choral Society Concert

SPIVA

April 27-May 2—Senior Art Student Exhibit

May 5-May 9—Senior Art Student Exhibit

Joplin



Concert

■ Friday — Raisin' Kane at Joplin's Champs Pub and Grill

THE BYPASS

624-9095
May 9-10—Hypnotist and Comedian Chip Flayton

CHAMPS

782-4944
May 2-3—Raisin' Kane
May 9-10—Next of Kin

May 16-17—Joe Giles
May 23-24—Raisin' Kane
May 30-31—Raisin' Kane

SPIVA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

623-0183
May 3-June 8—"Borrowed From Nature", Sculpture Exhibit

GUITARS & CADILLACS

659-9870
May 13—Little River Band

Carthage

STONE'S THROW THEATRE
358-9665
May 1-2, 8-11—Silvia

Kansas City

ARROWHEAD STADIUM
May 19—U2

SANDSTONE AMPHITHEATER

May 3—Jimmy Buffet w/ Pat Benatar
May 4—Bush w/ Veruca Salt
June 2—Tina Turner w/ Cyndi Lauper
June 6—Chicago and The Beach Boys
June 7—Rush
June 10—No Doubt w/ Weezer and Red Five
June 14—Styx w/ Pat Benatar

JAZZ IN JOPLIN



Trio Grande will perform at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, May 4 in Webster Hall. The performance is sponsored by Jazz in Joplin.

Pennsylvania band to hit Southern

By MICHELLE CONTY
ASSISTANT ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Coming all the way from Pittsburgh, Pa., the jazz band Trio Grande will bring a lively, spontaneous show to Webster Hall auditorium at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

"One of the things about jazz is it's very spontaneous," said Cecie Fritz, founder of Jazz in Joplin. "The program could change while the performers are on stage."

"It depends upon the audience's reaction — if they like one kind of music more, or respond more, even though they (the performers) planned on performing a different piece, that could

change based on the audience reaction."

John D'Amico, pianist, said the audience is important to the performance.

Trio Grande has been performing together since 1988. D'Amico, bassist Virgil Walters, and drummer Rodger Ryan have a collective 107 years of study and performance.

Even though the men had crossed paths previously, they did not begin to work together until nine years ago. Each believed his playing ability was enhanced by the sound of the other two.

Walters said when they first began to work together, they found they couldn't sustain their intensity for long. So they developed a training regimen consisting

of countless rehearsals to build their performance.

"If the audience didn't show up, it would be like one of us was not there," D'Amico said. "People who come to see us know they're a part of us."

The trio first performed in Joplin in 1991, when Jazz in Joplin started its first concert season. Fritz said she heard them on the radio and was so impressed by their sound that she called the radio station and contacted the group to perform.

Advance tickets are available at Williamson's Music House for \$10. Tickets at the door are \$12.50. Missouri Southern students and children 12 and under are admitted free. □

SPRING FLING

Picnic menu features music

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Spring Fling's annual picnic's menu will feature a 10-course helping of live music for students of Missouri Southern Friday.

At noon, the Campus Activities Board will introduce the first-ever Lionpalooza music festival.

"We first started talking about this in the fall," said Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities. "Residential life, a local sound man named Lee Snider, Student Senate, and CAB all wanted to do a battle of the bands. So we thought, 'why do several of them, when we can get by with just one?'

"This (Spring Fling) seemed to be the best time to do it," she said. "We thought if we did it at Spring Fling we would get the most attendance and the weather would be the most cooperative."

The CAB got some unexpected help organizing the event when Desiree Petersen, freshman graphic arts major, decided to form a campus organization for students interested in music.

"I wanted to start a club for local musicians," said Peterson, lead singer of Carbon Star, "because there aren't places to play around here anymore, unless you want to play in bars — and if you've got an underage band, you can't play in bars. So I decided to throw my own concert."

Petersen went to the CAB with her concert idea.

"I asked her (Carlisle) about having a concert," Petersen said. "She said, 'OK, you do all the work; we'll help you out.'"

Petersen started talking to bands she had performed with and knew.

She helped to organize some committees, and with the help of other students in the new "Sound Club," put together Southern's first music festival, Lionpalooza.

"We talked about having a battle of the bands, but decided we didn't want to make it a competition," said Spencer Beck, CAB president.

The festival will feature 10 bands performing a variety of music styles. The concert stage will be set up behind the sitting wall, in front of Reynolds Hall. □

SOUTHERN THEATRE REVIEW

Cast of 'Seagull' gives 'creative and enjoyable' performance

By KATE WALTERS
STAFF WRITER

Cast members of Southern Theatre's performance of *The Seagull* gave their audience a truly inventive performance. The show was creative and enjoyable in the fashion it was put together.

The show ran April 25 and 26. The theme of unrequited love was used to hold scenes together to tell the story in a manageable length. Although the scenes chosen did not give the best representation of the

plot, they were explicit in showing the audience the love that motivated the characters.

The show seemed to try to draw the audience in by treating it as a story telling, but a prologue in which two stagehands set up the stage did not work well.

Once Anton Chekhov entered from the back of the house, I was intrigued. An actor was used to portray Chekhov telling the story of his play. The production tried to draw the audience into the story as if you were seeing the creative process at work. But rather than realistic

believable performances, the characters all seemed to be rather theatrical.

Colorful monologues were written by the actors to give the audience each character's background. I like the idea of the self-written introductions, but they lengthened the show and slowed it down. The monologues were exposition; I began to grow weary waiting for the story to start.

All of the action took place on the pit, but the area was not used well. One area of the pit was used, and the actors lacked movement.

The blocking did not help the motivation of the characters. The characters seemed well motivated, but would have been aided by better movement.

The costumes were beautiful and fitting for the characters, but the lack of set seemed oddly mismatched. They would not have even needed a set if they had even attempted to place the characters on wooden chairs rather than the modern chairs they used.

Although this was a workshop setting, having the costumes finished with no care paid toward the set

seemed unbalanced. There weren't any props used during the show.

The lighting could have been better; it was somewhat on the dark side.

Although the acting was at times stiff, the actors put on a good performance. Lines were well memorized, and no faux pas were detected.

Overall, the performance — albeit a little on the long side — gave the audience a good look at Chekhov's work. The cast and director used creativity and a unique presentation to give the audience a look at a classic playwright. □

ENTERTAINMENT

Local actor 'tests waters' in HollywoodBy LINDA WHITED
STAFF WRITER

Sun-bathed Hollywood is aspiring actor Jason Booher's new residence. The Joplin High School graduate and former Missouri Southern art major has chosen to pursue acting training at Van Mar Academy.

Former pupils of the school include Rick Dees, TK Carter, and Sinbad.

"I waited until I was 23 years old," Booher said. "I should've come to Hollywood sooner. An actor can earn \$10,000 to \$40,000 a week doing commercials."

A résumé of his recent work includes "extra" scenes for "Murder She Wrote" and an appearance on "Boston Commons," an NBC television program.

Joyce Booher, Jason's mother, works for Southern as a sign language instructor. She teaches deaf students in Carthage as well.

"I think he was searching for something when he went out west," Joyce Booher said. "He loves Hollywood. Sometimes they

go on the set at 6 p.m. and work until 6 the next day."

Aspiring actors first must secure a theatrical or commercial agent. They cost about \$20, to start.

Booher tried out for two Hollywood agencies, Central and Senex, which he retains. He then was placed in his first show, "Saved By the Bell."

"It's not all what acting is cracked up to be, and it is. Sometimes you go into a big room and play cards," he said.

Agencies are located in downtown Hollywood, North Hollywood, and in the Valley, Booher explained. Many actors cater portfolios to several genres.

Two hundred thousand working Hollywood actors and actresses market specific looks to casting directors.

"I think anyone can do this if they have a desire," Booher said. "Agencies look for all types of people: bald women, people with hairy hands, you name it."

"Last week my agent told me they were looking for someone with no index and little fingers. I didn't

know anyone, but eventually they found a guy from Texas."

"I miss the green grass most. You go to Griffith Park (where *Rebel Without a Cause* was filmed) or Beverly Hills to see grass. You can't find a yard to put your feet in. It's all apartment complexes here."

Portfolio photography (head shots only) cost upwards of \$1,200. Less expensive shoots obtained for \$40 often start an actor's credentials. The less pricey pictures landed Booher his first jobs.

Set extras receive all meals free of cost. Booher said the perks include everything from steak and potatoes to Mahi-Mahi.

"Everyone is on hiatus for the next two months," he said. "Some actors get commercials or whatever they can do. Some get a second job."

Booher's continuous work since he arrived five months ago has kept him busy four to five days a week. "Saved By the Bell" employs him every Thursday and Friday, while modeling and commercials fill in his work schedule.

"It was a surprise to us he went



Photo courtesy of Dean Booher

Since arriving in Hollywood, Jason Booher has appeared in such weekly shows as "Saved By the Bell" and "Murder, She Wrote." out there," said Dean Booher, his father. "We thought he was looking for other work. Then he called us and told us he was on a weekly television show."

Dean Booher is principal of

Kelsey Norman Elementary School in Joplin. "We aren't renting a limousine for the Academy Awards yet," Dean Booher said. "It's one of those adventures in life." □

RECREATION



Workers at Leonard Park demolish the facility's swimming pool, which ceased functions in 1988.

JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Park board rejects pool upgradeBy KIM GIBSON
STAFF WRITER

A vacant pool will no longer take up space at Leonard Park in Joplin.

The deteriorated pool was shut down in 1988 due to the poor condition and low usage of the facility.

Recently, the parks board had to decide if upgrading the pool would be beneficial to Leonard Park. The board voted to remove the facility.

"It became pretty non-functional," said Jack Golden, director of the parks and recreation department.

Golden said the options were to either reconstruct the pool or remove it.

Because Leonard Park is small and serves few people, it would have been more expensive to rebuild.

Golden said because Joplin already has three Olympic-sized pools, the land would be better suited for other uses.

After the pool is deposited, the area will be seeded and used to expand the playground area. Extra picnic tables may be added later.

Since the pool was shut down, Golden said the parks and recreation department has searched for uses for the bath house. It has been utilized as a storage facility for the city, but Golden said it would have been cheaper simply to rebuild it. □

Seven months after a massive heart attack took his life, Ronnie Mills of The Cycle Connection continues to influence the Muscular Dystrophy fund-raiser.

Nancy Mills, his widow, now heads up the 12th annual Ronnie Mills Memorial "Ride for Life," which will be held Sunday, July 13. Harley Davidson and other motorcycle enthusiasts are invited to gain sponsorship and ride from 2201 E. Seventh St. to Sycamore Landing and Canoe Livery in Noel, Mo.

"Nancy does publicity work for the ride," said MDA's Doris Ashe.

All motorcycle types and their affiliated organizations are welcome to join in this event for "Jerry's Kids."

Start time for the event is 10 a.m. The escorted ride is approximately 100 miles.

Smoot Mahuti, an area band, is scheduled to supply entertainment.

Food will be provided. Field events will be conducted at Sycamore Landing. Every rider must wear a helmet.

Last year approximately 250 cycles made their way through Joplin.

Donations will go toward neces-

sary medical treatments. For example, a muscle biopsy and interpretation for a muscular dystrophy victim costs \$750. A child could spend a week at MDA summer camp, fee \$400. Full diagnostic testing and evaluations run \$3,500.

The event was named after Mills due to his participation in the ride.

Participants win prizes for their fund-raising efforts. By raising \$50, a "Ride For Life" T-Shirt is awarded. Participants receive a bandana, T-shirt, pin, and meal for \$300 raised. For \$700 raised, the prize is a leather riding jacket and the above-mentioned items. The grand prize is a getaway package for two and a free Harley.

Twenty dollar pledges qualify individuals for one chance at winning a new 1997 Harley Davidson XL 883.

The drawing will be held Sept. 1, during the local Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon on KODE-TV at 3:30 p.m.

Other local sponsors include KSYN, KOCD, KODE-TV, Country KAT 102.5, Tyson Foods, and Cotton-Eyed Joe's in Noel, Mo. Sponsor forms are available at sponsor locations.

MDA opens the door to hope for area patients. Support services help Americans live with 40 neuromuscular diseases. Its cutting-edge research offers a new determination to victims. MDA envisions a future without disabling disorders.

For more information, persons may call the Lifeline at 781-8600. □

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Thursday, May 1, 1997

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Richardson resigns position

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — In the wake of the third drunk driving arrest in the House of Representatives this year, Rep. Mark Richardson (R-Poplar Bluff) has resigned his position as House minority floor leader.

"I elected to resign my post as caucus leader for the remainder of this term in order that this event is not a distraction from the important work of the House of Representatives," Richardson said in a written statement.

Richardson was arrested in the Jefferson City area late Friday night. He was charged with two violations, driving while intoxicated and child endangerment; both are misdemeanors. His 4-year-old daughter was with him.

"This legislative session has been particularly disappointing regarding people in leadership positions serving as very poor role models," said Barb Fitzgerald, executive

director of Missouri's Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) chapter.

Richardson's arrest is the third in a series that began shortly after session opened. Freshman Rep. Kate Hollingsworth (D-Imperial) was arrested in Jefferson City, Jan. 22 after she was pulled over for driving west on an eastbound street.

Hollingsworth pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of first-offense DWI and was sentenced to two years' probation in Jefferson City Municipal Court. She was also ordered to pay court costs, perform 80 hours of community service, and attend a crime victim's panel.

The second arrest of this legislative session was on Feb. 2, when the car Rep. Phil Tate (D-Gallatin) went off the road and struck a tree outside Jefferson City. He pleaded guilty to an identical charge in Cole County Circuit Court. He was placed on two years' probation and issued a public apology.

In a written statement Tuesday, Richardson said he pleaded guilty to both counts

against him, driving while intoxicated and child endangerment.

He was placed on two years' probation, given 200 hours of community service, and is required to attend Substance Abuse Traffic Offenders.

When the legislative week began Monday, the Republican caucus met twice in private trying to decide how to move on with this situation.

After the second meeting on Tuesday morning, Richardson said he would step down from his leadership position in the House.

"There are 163 individuals here in the House of Representatives, and they all have different tasks and responsibilities," said House Speaker Steve Gaw (D-Moberly). "There are a lot of elements in the jobs here in Jefferson City that are stressful in many ways. We need to find ways to help legislators deal with that stress."

The House Republicans will meet Monday to decide on the new House minority floor leader. □

Drunk Driving Arrests

■ Three DWI arrests in Missouri's House of Representatives have been made this session.

Rep. Mark Richardson

■ Arrested April 25, plead guilty to driving while intoxicated and child endangerment.

Rep. Phil Tate

■ Arrested Feb. 2, plead guilty to driving while intoxicated.

Rep. Kate Hollingsworth

■ Arrested Jan. 22, plead guilty to driving while intoxicated.

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Governor designates Drinking Water Week

Gov. Mel Carnahan has proclaimed May 4-10 as Drinking Water Week in Missouri. Drinking Water Week recognizes Missouri's public drinking water industry for the work it does in providing Missourians with safe drinking water.

"Public water systems in Missouri face ever-increasing and complex challenges to meet stringent standards that the public has come to expect of them," said David Shorr, director of Missouri Department of Natural Resources. "We're urging all Missourians to join in paying tribute to the tireless, dedicated men and women that run our public drinking water system."

During Drinking Water Week, many public water systems in Missouri will offer the public guided tours of their drinking water facilities. An annual poster contest is also part of the week's activities.

For more information, people may contact DNR's Public Drinking Water Program at (573) 751-5331 or their local public drinking water system. □

Legislative cycle nears mid-May conclusion

The Missouri House of Representatives has given final approval to 188 House bills over the last four months, 38 more than were given approval at this time last year. In addition, the House has approved 50 Senate bills.

"The House of Representatives is close to completing this legislative cycle, and can be proud of the legislation that has been sent on to the Senate," said House Speaker Steve Gaw (D-Moberly). "Our energy has been focused on House bills over the last four months, and next week we will turn our attention to reviewing bills from the Senate."

Legislation that would benefit Missouri's families has gotten top priority in the House chamber, according to Gaw. □

Analysis shows price of gasoline to stay low

Average retail gasoline prices for the 1997 summer driving season may be 1 to 2 cents per gallon below the 1996 summer average, according to analyses performed by the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA) and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of Energy.

In a survey of retail gasoline prices conducted in April, DNR reports that the average statewide price for self-service regular unleaded was \$1.109, down 1.9 cents from this time last year.

"The statewide average price for self-service regular gasoline has been dropping steadily since Jan. 13," said Cher Stuewe-Portnoff, director of the Division of Energy. "Regular unleaded has dropped from \$1.213 per gallon to \$1.108 posted on March 3, its lowest average price this year."

Stuewe-Portnoff noted that Missouri's average price is below the \$1.19 national average.

"Drivers are not likely to see the type of sticker shock they experienced last year," said Jay Hakes, EIA administrator. "Even with record gasoline demand, we expect gasoline prices slightly below last summer's levels because of lower crude oil prices."

Despite the possibility of lower gasoline prices, the Division of Energy advises motorists to use gasoline as efficiently as possible.

The Division recommends regular vehicle maintenance to save gasoline and dollars, such as keeping tires properly inflated, regular tune-ups and oil changes, and operating vehicles at prescribed speed limits.

World oil prices, already down sharply from high midwinter levels, are expected to remain generally below 1996 levels for the rest of 1997. □

LOOK AT THIS, MOM!



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

During a trip to the Capitol building on Tuesday, 5-year-old Jacob Johnson, of Jefferson City, points out a museum display to his mother, Brenda. The museum is located on the first floor of the Capitol.

ANIMAL RIGHTS

House, Senate hear arguments on legality of cockfighting

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Missouri is only one of five states where cockfighting and other animal exhibitions are legal.

There are two bills in front of the legislature this session dealing with making animal fighting a crime.

Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arizona, and New Mexico are the only other states with legalized animal fighting, according to Shirley Sostman, vice president of the Alliance for Animal Legislation.

The House version of the bill is sponsored by Rep. Craig Hosmer (D-Springfield). Sen. John Scott (D-St. Louis) submitted the Senate bill.

Animal fighting was illegal in Missouri from 1873 until 1984, when the Missouri Supreme Court found the animal fighting statute to be unconstitutionally vague. The legislature has not been able to agree on wording for the bill.

"While there are two sides to this issue," Hosmer said, "in the whole scheme of things it is cruel."

The legislation would make a crime of owning or training any animal, fowl, or bird with the intent of using it in an exhibition fight with another animal, fowl, bird, or person in the state.

The Missouri General Assembly doesn't need to be wasting valuable time on frivolous bills that would make it a crime for Grandma Brown to own a game rooster in Neosho, Mo., said Sen. Danny

Staples (D-Eminence), who has voiced opposition to the way the bill has been proposed. "We should be focusing on issues like Medicare, Medicaid, the highway system, senior citizens, the mentally ill, and the economy."

The House bill would also make it a crime to be a spectator at an animal fight or wrestling exhibition. The first offense would make spectators guilty of an infraction and a Class A misdemeanor for the second or any subsequent offenses.

"A lot of the opposition to this bill deals with how you enact it and the range of punishment," Hosmer said. "People don't want it to affect rodeos and hunting and fishing."

The Senate has already heard the bill one time without coming to a decision. Neither bill is likely to

make it to the governor's desk this year, Hosmer said. He would consider bringing the legislation forward again next year.

"I don't know if there are any benefits or disadvantages to having animal fighting in Missouri," Staples said. "I just don't want the 160,000 people I represent to be bothered by misdemeanors."

Staples recently received a letter from a woman who supports animal fighting.

In her letter she enclosed a quote from Abraham Lincoln: "As long as the almighty permits intelligent men created in his image and likeness to fight in public and kill each other while the world looks on approvingly, it's not for me to deprive the chickens of the same privilege." □

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While there are two sides to this issue, in the whole scheme of things it is cruel.

Rep. Craig Hosmer
D-Springfield

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Sports SCOPE**'The Flab Five'****Come on down...**

Ladies and gentlemen, this is it: the final awards presented by the "Flab Five." Two of our members will be moving on. Our esteemed editor-in-chief, Rick Rogers, has chosen to skip his senior season and move on to the pro ranks. Ryan Bronson will return to Idaho after graduation in May. Now, on with the 12th annual LePage-Smith awards ceremony.

Lion Team of the Year is the Missouri Southern men's track and field squad. With athletes like Ben Brainard, whose 16-8 3/4 inch-pole vault broke Southern's record and earned him a No. 5 national ranking, it is plain to see that this team is going places.

Lady Lion Team of the Year, is the women's track and field team. Week in and week out, the Lady Lions have dominated the field events and are looking to send Michelle Heimerman to the NCAA Division II national competition for the second straight season.

Lion Player of the Year is Southern quarterback Brad Cornelison. Cornelison followed up freshman of the year honors with another outstanding year at the helm of the Lion football team.

Lady Lion Player of the Year goes to junior standout Stephanie Gockley. Following another stellar season, Gockley has already received several honors including Missouri Southern Female Athlete of the Year.

Athlete of the Year honors go to Richard "Dirt" Jordan. Dirt's defensive prowess earned him the distinction of being the first Lion football player to be selected in the NFL draft. Jordan was selected in the seventh round by the Detroit Lions. He received his first taste of the professional gridiron last weekend during spring mini-camp.

Senior of the Year is James Thrash. Thrash is also hoping to continue his football career by signing as a free-agent with the Philadelphia Eagles. If he can come close to attaining the success he enjoyed at Southern, then his name will be known for years to come.

Lady Lion Coach of the Year goes to former basketball coach Carrie Kaifess. Kaifess, in just her second season as head coach, led her team to the playoffs again.

The Rodney Dangerfield Awards is also given to Kaifess. Kaifess was asked to leave Southern after a first-round loss to Missouri Western in the MIAA post-season tournament.

Basketball pundits are still searching for a legitimate reason as to why the 1996 MIAA coach of the year was given the boot.

Next year looks promising for Southern's athletic departments, and *The Chart* sports staff wishes each team good luck in bringing championships home in the future. □

TRACK & FIELD**Brainard vaults over milestone**

By JOE ECKHOFF
STAFF WRITER

Lion track members turned in a good performance last weekend at the Bill Williams Lion Relays and are now preparing for this week's conference meet at Emporia State.

"It was a good meet for us, a low-key meet that we used for a tune-up for the conference meet," said coach Tom Rutledge. "Our conference has a lot of muscle, and it's going to be tough, but realistically, we could finish anywhere between third and sixth."

At the weekend meet, pole vaulter Ben Brainard shattered the school record with a vault of 16-8 3/4 inches.

"That is basically like falling from a two-story building," Rutledge said. "It's just a matter of time before he goes above 17 feet."

Lion throwers Lee Heinerikson and Doug Culver both had provi-

sional records in the hammer throw.

Throwers Stephanie Wainscott and Michelle Heimerman stole the show for the Lady Lions. Heimerman won the hammer throw and was second in the discus, while Wainscott won the discus and was second in the shot put and in the hammer throw.

Pole vaulter Sandra Richardson won the exhibition pole vault for the second week in a row, but sprained her ankle in the process.

Coach Patty Vavra is concerned about weakness in some events due to the injuries to Heather Hoyle and Richardson.

"The key for us is going to be if we are healthy enough to enter the girls in as many events as we need to," she said.

Throughout the season, the Lady Lions have relied on a hard work ethic, and Vavra said she likes the spirit of the team.

"All the girls have worked very hard and are strong both mentally and physically," she said. □

SOFTBALL**Lady Lions start strong, finish tournament in third**

By JASON OWEN
SPORTS EDITOR

After pulling a major upset of No. 2-ranked Pittsburgh State 3-0 and No. 3 Northwest Missouri State 1-0, it seemed Missouri Southern's softball team might be able to do the impossible last weekend.

However, the sky fell in on the Lady Lions as they dropped games to Central Missouri 4-2 and Missouri Western 3-2 Saturday, closing their season with a third-place finish in the MIAA.

"We are disappointed," said senior pitcher Jane Roberts. "We really felt like we could go out and win it all, especially after the way we played on Friday."

"We really went out and took the bull by the horns. We felt like

we could take on anyone who wanted to play us. So coming out Saturday and dropping it like that was a little tough."

Southern finishes the season 18-16 overall.

Head coach Pat Lipira said she felt good about the weekend.

"I really think that we were able to go out and prove a lot of people wrong at the tournament," she said.

"We really came out and played like I knew we could this weekend."

"By Saturday afternoon I think everybody in the conference knew that with out a doubt we were a quality team."

Lipira attributed much of the team's success to senior pitcher Holly Trantham, who took on the pitching duties in all four of

Southern's conference tourna-

ment games.

"Holly really pitched well this weekend," she said. "Our other pitchers are good quality pitchers, but Holly gives up less runs. She pitched two one-hit games this weekend, and with the way we are hitting as a team, that was exactly what we needed."

Following the success the Lady Lions enjoyed on Friday, Roberts said they were just "missing something" on Saturday that led to their losses.

"I don't know what we were missing, but we just did not have it Saturday," she said. "We went out really feeling like we could win it all, and we really should have been able to do just that, but we just could not seem to find whatever that special something

was that we had had Friday."

With the loss to Missouri Western, Southern saw its season come to an end. Lipira said she was happy after looking at the season as a whole.

"I really do not feel like the record really does this team justice," she said.

"It does not tell you how good we really were. A lot of the games we lost were one-run games, and we were in them till the very end."

"This year's team was a quality team, and I feel like we ended up well. We were able to go out and play four games this weekend when most people expected us to just play two and go home. We ended the season playing as well as I feel we were capable of playing, and I have to be happy about that." □

miaa softball POST-SEASON

| |
|-----------------------------|
| Game 1— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 3</i> |
| <i>Pittsburg State 0</i> |
| Game 2— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 1</i> |
| <i>Northwest Missouri 0</i> |
| Game 3— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 2</i> |
| <i>Central Missouri 4</i> |
| Game 4— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 2</i> |
| <i>Missouri Western 3</i> |

BASEBALL**Lions finish fourth**

By NICK PARKER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With a 2-2 record at the MIAA tournament last weekend, the Missouri Southern baseball team finished its 1997 campaign with a 27-23 overall mark and a fourth-place finish in the conference.

"We didn't play too well in the middle of the season," said R.J. Forth, junior outfielder, "but I think we finished strong."

Chris Raffin, sophomore pitcher and first baseman, said his team played beyond the expectations many had for the youthful team.

"The whole year our guys stuck together," Raffin said. "We had a lot of talent. We played well at times, and we we played bad at times."

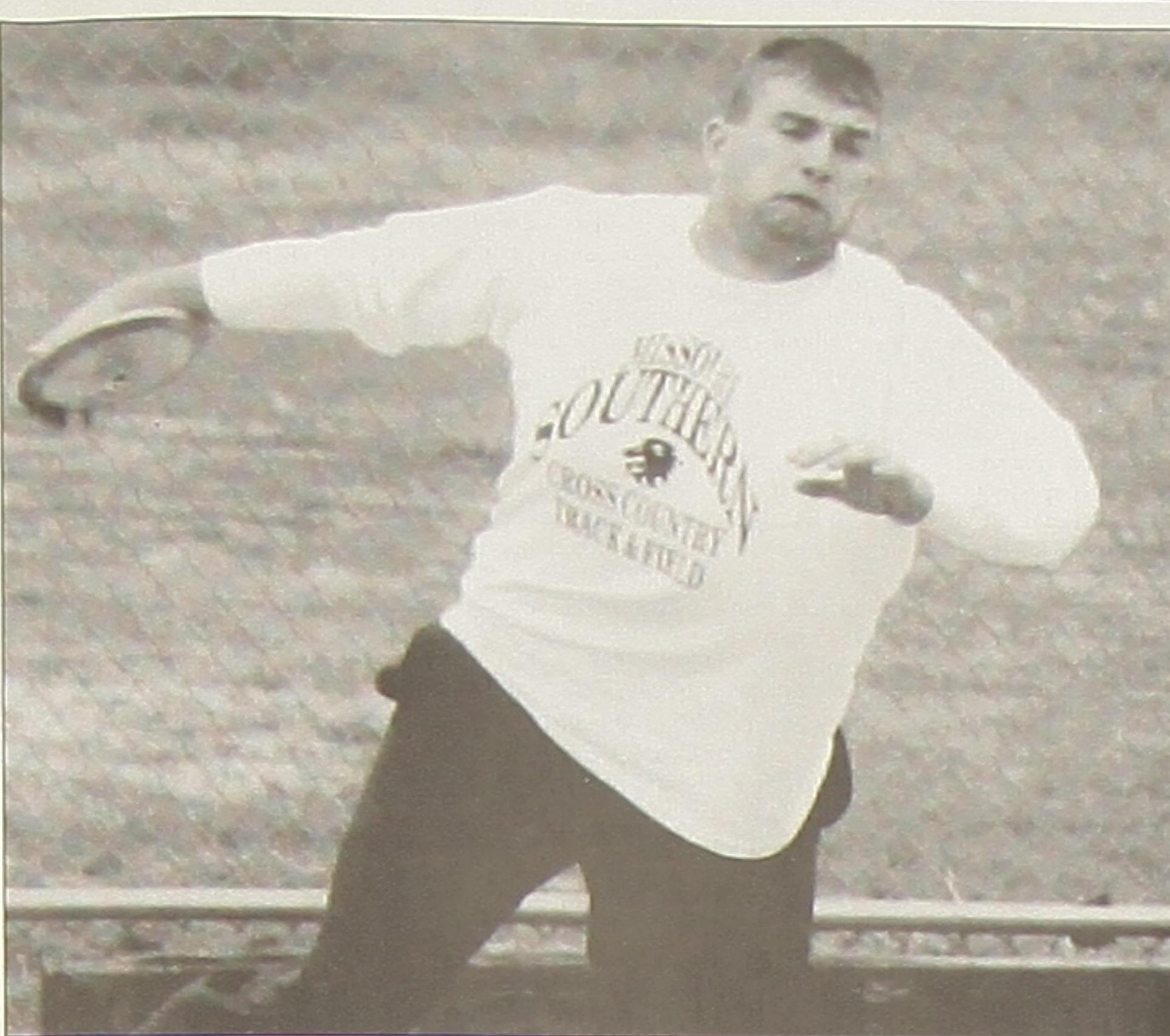
The Lions opened the MIAA tournament Friday with a 13-2 loss to Washburn.

Southern bounced back, downing

miaa baseball POST-SEASON

| |
|----------------------------|
| Game 1— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 2</i> |
| <i>Washburn 13</i> |
| Game 2— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 7</i> |
| <i>Missouri Western 6</i> |
| Game 3— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 7</i> |
| <i>Washburn 2</i> |
| Game 4— |
| <i>Missouri Southern 9</i> |
| <i>Missouri Western 14</i> |

Missouri Western 7-6 in 10 innings. On Saturday, the Lions eliminated Washburn with a 7-2 victory. But CMSU knocked Southern out of the tourney, 14-9. □



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Southern junior Lee Heinerikson grimaces as he hurls the discus at the Southern Bill Williams Lion Relays. Heinerikson set a provisional (the minimum to qualify for the NCAA Division II meet) in the hammer throw.

MEN'S BASKETBALL**Former Lion assistant dies at 57**

By NICK PARKER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Ronald Ellis, 57, former assistant men's basketball coach at Missouri Southern, died Monday at his home in Carl Junction after a lengthy bout with cancer.

Ellis served as assistant coach from 1974-87 under R.C. Shipley, Gary Garner, and Chuck Williams.

Williams is now an assistant professor of health, physical education, and recreation at Southwest Missouri State University.

Williams said he had remained in contact with Ellis since their time together at Southern.

"I had just visited with him a few weeks ago," Williams said. "I knew he was in bad health, but I

didn't know it was this bad. This comes as quite a shock and a surprise.

"He was with me approximately 10 years, over that time we obviously had a lot of dealings together. We developed quite a good friendship."

Jim Frazier, men's athletic director, said Ellis remained a supporter of Southern athletics after he left the College.

"He has been a vital part of the Missouri Southern athletic tradition," Frazier said. "Ron was a very loyal supporter even after he left."

"He is definitely too young to be gone; he still had a lot to offer."

At Southern, Ellis' primary responsibilities were recruiting.

Frazier and Williams said his personable demeanor gave him

an edge while recruiting and in dealing with the players as a coach.

"Ron's personality was what gave him his strength," Williams said.

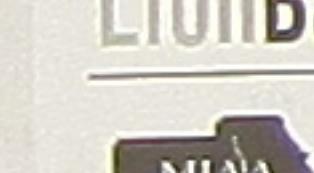
"He got along with people well. He was not only a coach, but also a friend to many of the players."

Before coming to Southern, Ellis taught and coached at Webb City High School from 1968-74.

After leaving the College, he worked as a building contractor in the Joplin area.

A memorial service was held Wednesday evening at Hedge-Lewis Funeral Home in Webb City.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Mount Hope Cemetery. □

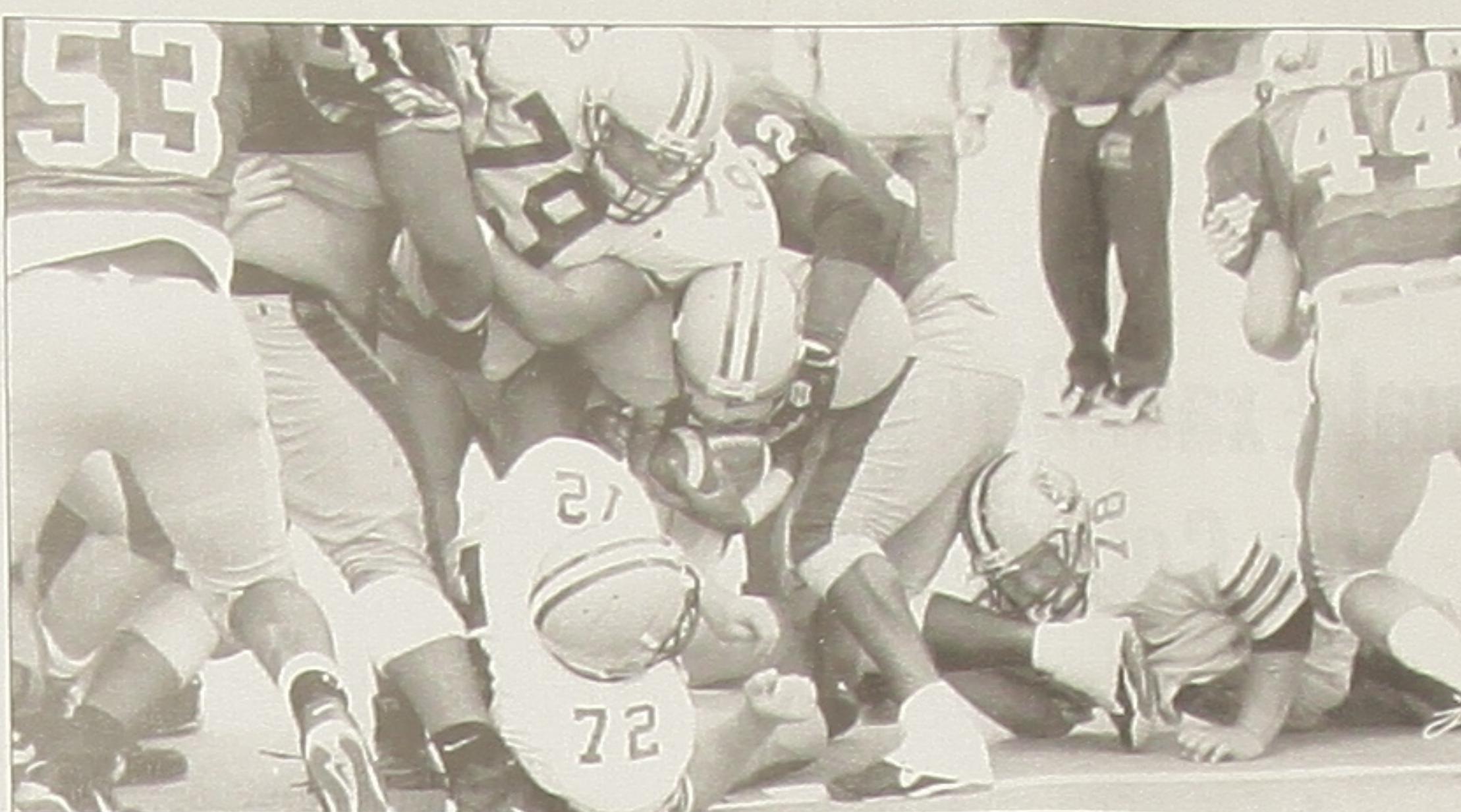
Southern Scoreboard
LionBaseball**MIAA Standings**
Through April 29

| | (conf, overall) |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Central Missouri | 17-2, 30-9 |
| 2. Pittsburg State | 17-7, 38-16 |
| 3. Emporia State | 12-8, 23-15 |
| 4. Missouri Southern | 12-10, 27-23 |
| 5. Washburn | 11-10, 25-23 |
| 6. Missouri-Rolla | 10-13, 20-17 |
| 7. Northwest Missouri | 8-11, 16-21 |
| 8. Missouri Western | 8-11, 18-20 |
| 9. Southwest Baptist | 8-12, 18-16 |
| 10. Lincoln | 7-14, 15-23 |
| 11. Truman State | 3-15, 8-27 |

**Southern Stats**

| Batting Average |
|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Esposito, Daniel, Sr., PSU - .483 |
| 2. Goodwin, David, Jr., CMSU - .462 |
| 3. Contreas, Oscar, Jr., ESU - .431 |
| 4. Shorter, Brad, Jr., PSU - .416 |
| Runs Batted In |
| 1. Esposito, Daniel, Sr., PSU - 65 |
| 2. Barlet, Jeremy, Jr., ESU - 46 |
| 3. Goodwin, Dave, Jr., CMSU - 42 |
| 4. Myers, Matt, Sr., PSU - 56 |
| Earned Run Average |
| 1. Clark, Eric, So., CMSU - 2.95 |
| 2. Bybec, Mark, Jr., SBU - 2.98 |
| 3. Cronk, Daryl, So., PSU - 3.06 |

FOOTBALL



Missouri Southern's freshman quarterback Rodney McClure (with ball) finds a hole behind offensive linemen Jason Owen (72) to break into the endzone during Saturday's team scrimmage.

RICK ROGERS/The Chart



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

McClure produces in scrimmage

Lions' 1997 Football Schedule

Sept. 13 — NE State University, Home, 7 p.m.
Sept. 20 — NW Missouri State, Away, TBA
Sept. 27 — Pittsburg State University, Home, 7 p.m.
Oct. 4 — Missouri Western State, Away, TBA
Oct. 11 — Central Missouri State, Away, TBA
Oct. 18 — Emporia State, Home, 1:30 p.m.
Oct. 25 — Washburn University, Away, TBA
Nov. 1 — Missouri-Rolla, Home, 2:30 p.m.
Nov. 8 — Southwest Baptist, Away, TBA
Nov. 15 — Truman State University, Home, 1:30 p.m.

By RICK ROGERS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After Saturday's final team scrimmage, Missouri Southern head football coach Jon Lantz seems to be wearing a larger grin under his woolly mustache.

And the reason is simple. Heading into the 1997 football season, Lantz and the Lions look to be in an unusual situation — two competent quarterbacks in sophomore Brad Cornelisen and freshmen Rodney McClure.

With Cornelisen sitting out

Saturday's scrimmage, Lantz said he wanted McClure to make the practice similar to a game atmosphere.

"I feel like we can win in this league with any one quarterback," Lantz said, "which is saying something. I don't think that we have ever had that since Matt Cook and Rod Smith were both at quarterback. You are just fortunate at this level to even have one quarterback."

The Lions, after beginning their 1996 campaign 5-0 and fielding a No. 3 ranking, finished last season

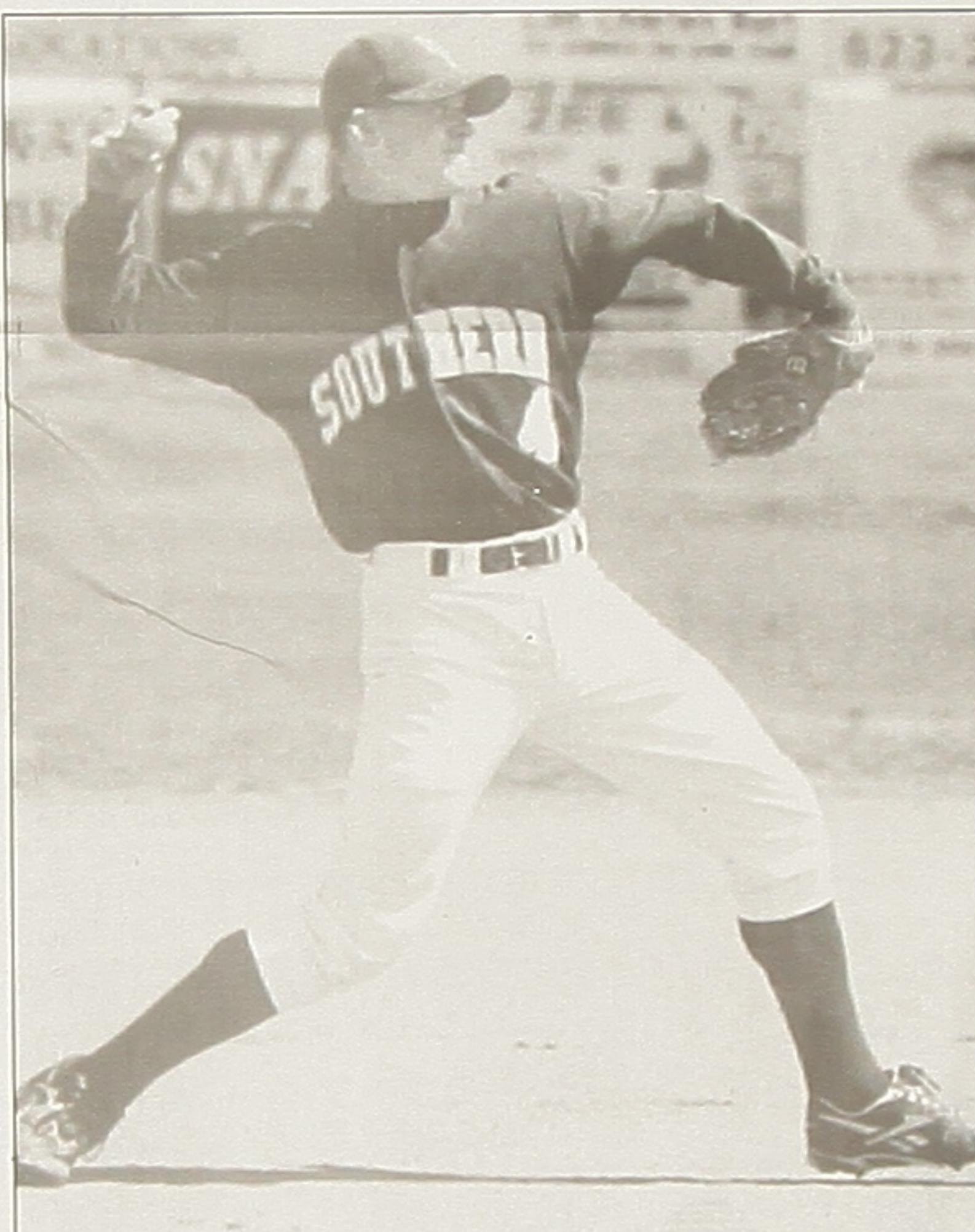
with a 6-4 record. Lantz said he thinks next fall's team can improve on last season's record.

"I probably look at last year's team differently," he said. "I felt like finishing 6-4 was really not overachieving, really not underachieving, but just achieving at the level I expected."

With the MIAA's tradition of fielding a different surprise title contender each season, Lantz said he hopes the Lions are that squad this fall.

"I would like to think that we have more going for us than a lot of other teams in the conference," he said. □

BASEBALL



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

After adapting to playing third base this season, Missouri Southern's freshman sensation Brad Smith has been a sweet surprise for the Lion coaching staff after batting .374 this year.

Smith plants imprint during 1st year

By RICK ROGERS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Not many freshmen college baseball players are fortunate enough to be in Brad Smith's shoes.

Smith, a 1996 graduate of Baxter Springs (Kan.) High School, has quickly adapted to the collegiate baseball scene by nabbing a starting role at third base with Missouri Southern.

His first order of business was having to switch from playing shortstop, where he was featured in high school, to third base.

Even though he lacks the experience of many of his teammates, Smith seems to have no problem handling the hot corner for the Lions.

"I really like playing third a lot," Smith said. "You don't have as much time when the ball is coming to you. It really comes a lot quicker and forces you to react on instinct."

One of Smith's biggest defensive highlights this season was a game-saving stab against the University of Missouri-Rolla.

"The game was tied in extra innings, and they had the bases loaded and two outs," he said.

"This guy hit the ball to my left, and I went back for it and threw the guy out at first. After that, we came back and won the game."

Defense isn't the only aspect of the game Smith has worked on during his first season with the Lions. He finished the year batting .374 with 54 runs scored and 71 hits.

He also produced some clutch hitting while batting in the middle of the Lions' line-up with five home runs, 43 RBIs, and 17 doubles. Smith's biggest game in the batter's box was a 3-for-4 performance against the University of Arkansas on April 2.

Even though his numbers prove he is hitting the ball well, Smith admits his toughest challenge is being able to swing the bat well against college

pitching in the MIAA conference.

"The pitchers are smarter in college," he said. "There are a few high school pitchers that are good, but in college they think the same and try to locate the ball in different places."

But it hasn't always been easy for the freshman.

"In the fall it started out pretty bad," Smith said. "I just wasn't used to practicing everyday, for about three or four hours. I didn't like it a whole lot."

Things seemed to change for Smith, however, once the spring schedule was in full bloom.

"Once we got a chance to start playing, it has been a lot better," he said. "I have had a lot more fun."

Unlike high school baseball, Smith has had to deal with the physical wear and tear on his body because of Southern's grueling schedule.

"Coming out here every day and playing two games a day doesn't give you much time to rest a whole lot," he said.

Much of how Smith made it to the collegiate level rests on his Baxter Springs baseball upbringing.

"Ever since I was a little kid, I just played baseball and tried to learn the game," he said. "Now I am in a different phase of the game."

Smith played four seasons for the Baxter High baseball Lions, and also played football during his high school years. He spent his summers playing baseball for American Legion Post 206. □

Ever since I was a little kid I just played baseball and tried to learn the game. Now I am in a different phase of the game.

Brad Smith
Lions' third baseman

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- b) d
- c) d
- d) 1 800 CALL ATT
- e) HELLO-d



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THE
CHART

presents Missouri Southern's

SECTION

B

Thursday, May 1, 1997

TOP 100 SENIORS

Names & Numbers

4.0

3.981 - 3.944

(From high to low)

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| John Baker | 8B | Jeff Erickson | 4B | Rick Bosshart | 6B |
| Donna Swatzell | 8B | Rebecca Qualls | 4B | Tammy Miller | 15B |
| Amber Peterson | 13B | Mark Weber | 14B | Todd Hedger | 7B |
| Allena Volskay | 2B | Patricia Hinds | 13B | Jeremy Brown | 12B |
| Kerry Durham | 14B | Renee Hopkins | 8B | Amy Mayberry | 2B |
| Jessee Kluthe | 5B | Joyce Braudaway | 6B | Julie Clark | 10B |
| Marian Trewin | 3B | Rachel Sage | 7B | Shane Van Dalsem | 5B |
| Brian Mitchell | 11B | Kristin Gautz | 11B | C. Russ Neely | 9B |
| Amy Reif | 3B | | | | |

Volskay: Take each class, day as it comes

By EILEEN COR
CHART REPORTER

Yes, it's true. Missouri Southern has its very own greenhouse, and one of its caretakers is Allena Volskay, senior biology major. She has helped maintain the greenhouse for the past four years. The rest of the time, she has been busy maintaining her 4.0 grade-point average.

She says she has managed by "taking each class and day as it comes."

Volskay said she found Organic Chemistry and Zoological Survey to be her toughest classes. Her favorite class is Voice Lessons "because it's completely elective and fun." She took this course as simply a hobby and has remained in the class for three years.

Volskay says Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology, is her favorite instructor.

"He makes whatever he's teaching fun, and he's excited about it," she said.

Along with her classes, Volskay has kept busy with such activities as

playing clarinet in the orchestra for *Camelot* in 1995 and for the spring band. She has participated in the Biology Club, Honors Club, and Math Club, and she spent three weeks at Oxford University last summer.

She has worked for Prairie Restoration Vegetational Analysis and has done photography and illustrations for George Washington Carver

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Allena Volskay
Major:
Biology
GPA:
4.0



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Microscopes are just part of a day's work for Allena Volskay, senior biology major, who maintains a 4.0 grade-point average in addition to playing the clarinet, doing volunteer work, and participating in clubs.

Elementary School as a volunteer for three years.

"She's very talented and artistic," said Dr. Dorothy Bay, assistant professor of biology. "Her knowledge of botany is especially good."

"Allen really cares about what she's learning," Jackson said. He has known her for six years and believes she has an absolute commitment to perfection in understanding the concepts that are in the science courses.

"She let her heart choose her course of study and professional growth, rather than integrating herself into some already existing route to graduate school or medical school," Jackson said. "She went into botany because she loved botany."

Volskay's hobbies include reading books about adventures and taking care of the family pets and farm animals. She shares the farm with her parents and her sister, Delinda, a veterinarian. Her other sister, Edna, died of leukemia at the age of 18 in 1992.

Volskay's family played an important part in her achievements.

"They've given me an awful lot of support over the years," she said. "I could not have kept a 4.0 without them."

She plans to attend graduate school at University of California-Santa Cruz and join the one-year certificate program. She has chosen a career in biological and botanical illustration. □



MIKE FOX/The Chart
Amy Mayberry, senior psychology major, says being involved is important.

Overseas travel highlights experiences

By BRIAN SHIVLEY
CHART REPORTER

The applause was overwhelming.

Audience members were pounding on the table and shouting, "More! More!"

"Sounds of Missouri," a 60-piece band comprised of instrumentalists from across the state, had just finished a performance in Germany, and Amy Mayberry was trying to absorb the experience.

"Audiences are just more appreciative over there," said Mayberry, a senior psychology major. "They seem to love American music, and the way they show appreciation just seems to be more active."

Mayberry was able to tour with the band in Europe twice during her time at Missouri Southern, and though the travel stands out as a highlight, it is only one of many things she has experienced and accomplished.

"Getting involved is so important to me," she said. "It is what I thrive on."

"She is always busy trying to expand her horizons," said Robert Meeks, assistant professor of music.

Mayberry defines herself as goal-oriented.

However, her goal is not to compete with others, but with herself. "When I set a goal for myself, I am going to achieve it," she said. "I am still working on a few that I haven't achieved. I don't want to drop my standards."

While Mayberry is proud of all her accomplishments, the one she is most grateful for is the Outstanding Graduate distinction awarded by Southern's Alumni Association.

"Amy is not just an excellent student; she seems to be very good at everything she does," said Dr. Brian Babbitt, professor of psychology.

The pace Mayberry keeps is amplified even more by her off-campus activities. She has worked at the Turn Around Ranch, Ozark Center's youth residential center, and is on staff at the College Skyline Center.

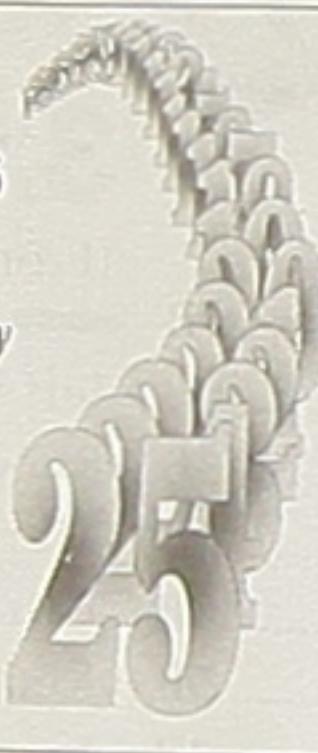
Somewhere she has found the time, though. In her five years of college she has completed 176 hours of credit and earned a 3.944 grade-point average.

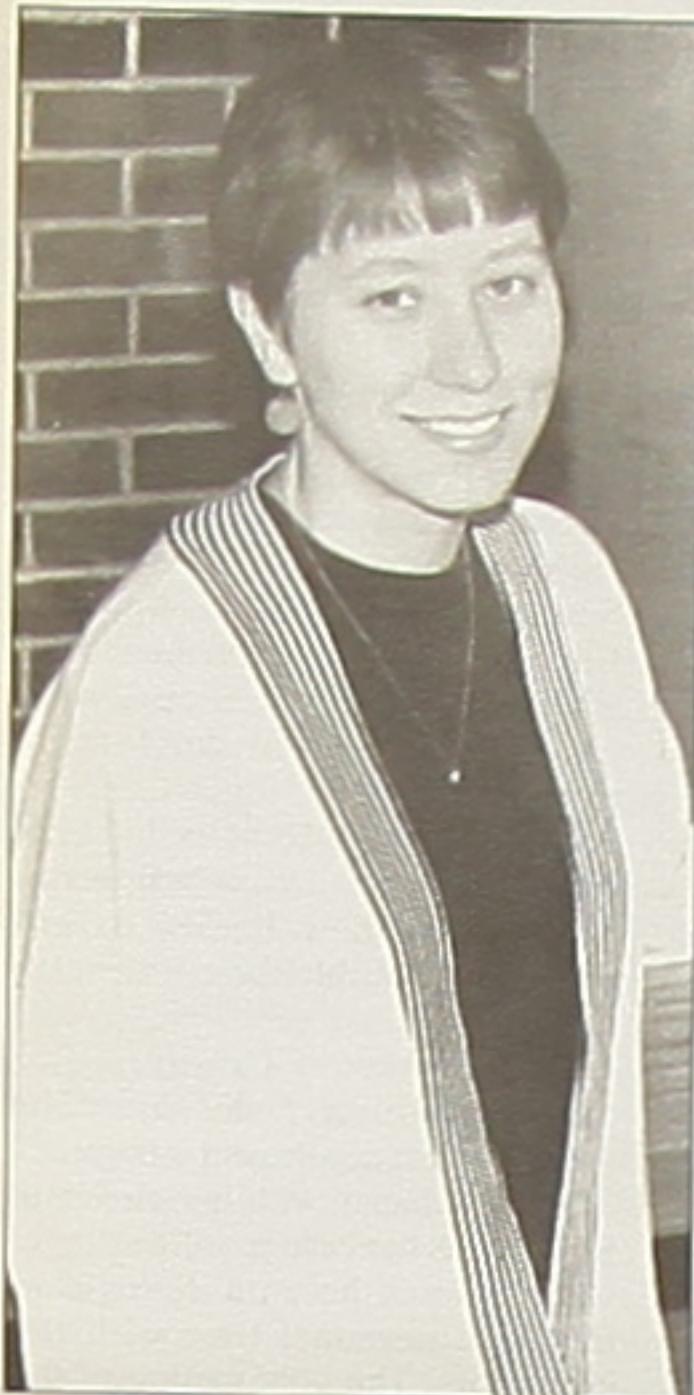
Mayberry is from Ironton, Mo., located about two hours south of St. Louis, and was drawn to the campus after auditioning for Meeks. "He made a big impression on me," Mayberry said.

"And he is still one of my favorite teachers." □

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Amy Mayberry
Major:
Psychology
GPA:
3.944





MIKE FOX/The Chart
Her pending graduation isn't the only thing on the mind of Amy Reif, senior psychology/Spanish major, who is also busy planning for her May 31 wedding.

Father's illness prompts career decision for Trewin

Competitive spirit drives nursing major to excel

By HELEN POWERS
CHART REPORTER

Children often act out roles, such as pretending to be a nurse, that they have seen on television. Some pretend to be people they have become familiar with in a variety of professions. Pretending has become a reality for Marian Trewin.

"I was about 7 when my father, Dale Trewin, was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy or enlarged heart," she said. "I would accompany him on his frequent trips to the hospital, then help him when we were at home."

Because of this, at the age of 21, Trewin, a nursing major, will graduate with a 4.0 grade-point average.

"I am very competitive within myself," she said. "I didn't enter college with the intent of having a 4.0 GPA. I just enjoy helping people, just like I used to help my father."

The only child of Dale and Rilda Trewin, she received plenty of support and encouragement while growing up in

Reif advises others to have fun

By MOOSE LEIGHTON
CHART REPORTER

While earning a 4.0 grade-point average at Missouri Southern, Amy Reif, psychology/Spanish major, also gained the heart of her future husband.

"I've known him since my freshman year," she said. "We've been dating over three years, and we plan to get married May 31."

Reif's fiance, Gregory Simmons, is a computer information systems major. They both will graduate May 17.

They recently bought a house in Duquesne and will move in after their marriage. In June, she will begin working with Leggett & Platt in the company's international division.

Reif graduated valedictorian from Osborne (Kan.) High School in 1993. She has always done well in school, but getting straight A's wasn't forced on Reif and her sisters, Anastasia and Allison. Her parents, Al and Ann, only encouraged them.

"My parents never expected us to get A's," she said. "They just encouraged us to do our best. They started our education at an early age by reading to us, and that in turn expanded our learning. I got my GPA from a lot of hard studying."

Reif has been a member of the honors program since her freshman year.

"I never even heard of Southern until I received a letter from Dr. [Lanny] Ackiss, the director of the honors program," she said. "I read it and tossed it aside with the mail from a bunch of other colleges."

Reif forgot about the letter until the day Ackiss called and asked her to visit the campus.

"When I came to Southern, even though I was just a high school student, everyone welcomed me and made me feel at home," she said. "They said that they would love to have me back next year, and they offered me a full scholarship. I loved the community, the small school, and the scholarship, so here I am."

Reif was interested in only a single major in Spanish until she took her honors General Psychology class.

"Dr. Brian Babbitt got me really excited about the field of psychology," she said. "I

would say that he is one of my favorite teachers."

Babbitt, professor of psychology, said, "Amy is one of the best students I ever had. She is well organized and concise. I've gotten to know her on a personal level, and she is a nice, unassuming person who interacts well with others."

Reif said she might have done things a little differently with her time at Southern.

"I wouldn't have stressed out so much about all the details of my school work," she said. "I would have taken more time to have fun; I had fun, but I could have had a lot more if I hadn't been so worried."

Her advice to others?

"Pay attention to the school work because it's important, and that's why you're here," she said. "But don't obsess over every single detail; relax a little bit and have fun, too."

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Amy Reif
Major:
**Psychology/
Spanish**
GPA:
4.0



Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Marian Trewin
Major:
Nursing
GPA:
4.0



Joplin. "They never pressured me; the grades didn't matter as long as I did my best," Trewin said.

In 1995 she received her associate's degree from Missouri Southern. Trewin has been employed at St. John's Regional Medical Center for the past three years in cardiac surgery.

After graduation, she may become a traveling nurse.

A traveling nurse goes to different hospitals for an approximate 13-week stay then moves on to the next anywhere in the



MIKE FOX/The Chart
Marian Trewin, senior nursing major, has been working at St. John's Regional Medical Center since 1995. She hopes to become a traveling nurse after graduation.

country. "I think that a traveling nurse would be very interesting, but I'm not sure yet. In the meantime, I'll stay at St. John's," she said.

"I'd like to continue my education and specialize later on, but I need a break from school," Trewin said.

"For the last four years, I go to work, I

go to class. I definitely need a break."

Her advice to others makes her sound wiser than her years.

"Education is so important, so stay in school. Give it your all; getting a degree is required these days for most everything we do."

"It's almost expected," Trewin said.

Student credits success to family support



MIKE FOX/The Chart.

Rebecca Qualls, senior English education major, thinks the influence of instructors is vital to success.

By BENJI TUNNELL
CHART REPORTER

Family is very important to many students at Missouri Southern. No one knows this better than Rebecca Qualls.

Qualls, an English education major, graduated in December 1996 with a 3.978 grade-point average. She credits her success to hard work and a supportive family.

"I had a lot of determination," she said. "I just stayed very focused on my studies, which is very important in education."

Qualls also gives much of the credit for her success to the support of her family. Both her immediate family and her extended family were instrumental in her college career.

"I really have a wonderful group of friends and family. I couldn't have made it through without them."

Qualls has been married 12 years to her husband, Kirk, and she has two daughters, Leslie and Ashley.

Qualls taught College Orientation in 1994 to a class of non-traditional students. Being a non-traditional student herself, she was able to impart her experiences to them.

"A lot of things I told them I wouldn't tell other students," she said.

She has some advice for non-traditional students, especially

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Rebecca Qualls
Major:
English education
GPA:
3.978



those just starting out. "Don't feel like you're not a part," she said. "Other students actually look up to you as role models."

During her four and a half years at Southern, Qualls split her time between taking care of her family and concentrating on her studies.

She was also a member of the International Reading Association, Sigma Tau Delta, and Kappa Delta Pi. Any spare time she has is devoted to her volunteer work. Qualls teaches

Sunday school at the First Baptist Church in Galena, Kan., and works with the youth there. She also participates in fund-raisers for the fire department.

When she thinks about the influence of her instructors, Qualls believes the Missouri Southern English department was probably the most important.

"I don't know if I could pick a favorite instructor," she said. "The whole English department was great."

Qualls is happy with her choice of Southern as her college.

She believes the small classes allow for more personal time with the instructors. The only weakness she

believes the College has is a lack of communication between the different schools.

Currently substituting, Qualls is looking forward to a full-time position. She would, however, like to leave one final word of wisdom to Southern's underclassmen:

"Just hang in there," she says. "It's definitely worth it."

Old-fashioned studying produces positive results

By MOOSE LEIGHTON
CHART REPORTER

Focus, drive, and the desire to sacrifice is why Jeff Erickson, senior economics and finance major, is one of the top 25 graduating seniors.

"I got my grade-point average (3.98) from hard work and sacrifice," he said. "I attribute my success in school to good, old-fashioned studying."

Missouri Southern consumes most of Erickson's time, but that's fine with him.

"I really don't mind the work," he said. "I'm happy with the time I've spent at Southern. It's been a positive experience for me."

Erickson graduated salutatorian from Wheaton (Mo.) High School in 1992.

"I was especially active in fine arts and music," he said.

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Jeff Erickson
Major:
Economics, finance
GPA:
3.98



Erickson plans to attend the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he will study law.

"I've always been fascinated with law,"

Erickson plays first-chair clarinet for the Southern concert band.

"One of the reasons I like playing at Southern is because of my music instructor, Mr. [Robert J.] Meeks," he said. "He is very passionate about music. He is able to use his enthusiasm to motivate his students. He makes you want to learn more."

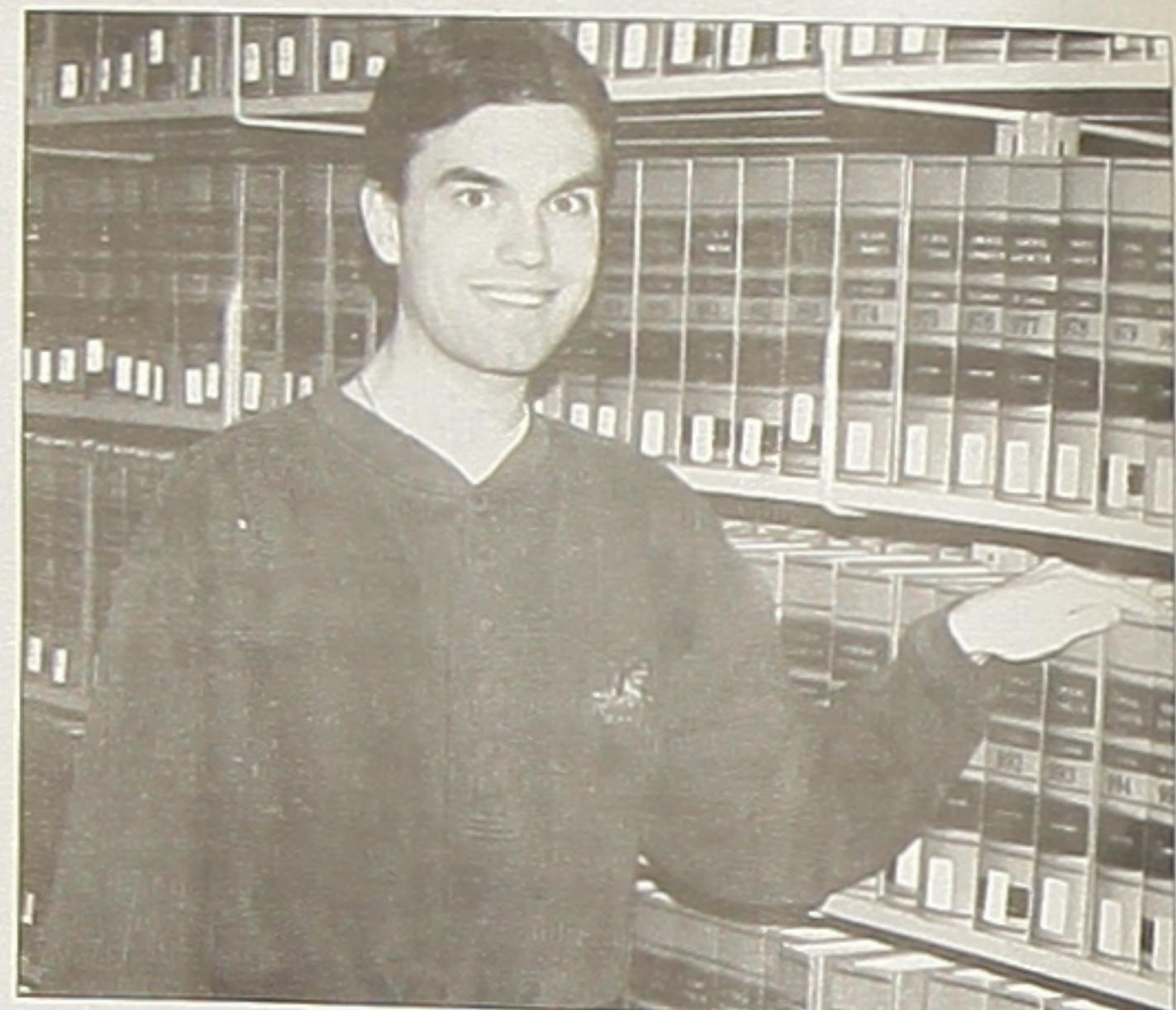
Meeks has a high regard for Erickson as well.

"He is a unique individual," Meeks said. "He is never satisfied with remaining on one level; he pushes himself to achieve."

"He always has a positive outlook and is extremely friendly and outgoing," Meeks added. "Jeff will be sorely missed."

"It will only take a few more hours to get the degree," he said. "I might as well do it."

Erickson said he will take several fond memories of Southern with him.



MIKE FOX/The Chart.

Jeff Erickson, senior economics and finance major, plans to attend the University of Missouri-Columbia to study law after graduating with a 3.98 grade-point average.

he said. "It has a rich and diverse history."

He will also be seeking his MBA at UMC.

"I've enjoyed the faculty and the staff at Southern," he said.

"If I had to do it all over again, I wouldn't have changed a thing. Southern has a lot of good qualities about it — its affordability for one. And I wouldn't have chosen my major if it weren't for the core curriculum."

Helping children Kluthe's career goal

By JUSTIN SIFFORD
CHART REPORTER

Maintaining a 4.0 grade-point average through your senior year in college is by no means an easy task. But for Jesse Kluthe, senior psychology major, it was a piece of cake.

"I try to use the talents that God gave me; I really don't have a secret," she said.

Kluthe has had a quite a plateful during her short four years at Missouri Southern. She is a member of the honors program, Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Chi, Psi Chi, and the honors business club. When not studying, Kluthe finds time to teach aerobics at Southern and volunteer her time with the Hammons Mentor Program. She has also done extensive work with the United Way and the Children's Miracle Network.

"I want to help children; that's my thing," Kluthe said.

On Sunday mornings Kluthe can be found at Fellowship Baptist Church in Joplin, where she teaches children's Sunday school classes.

"The lessons they learn in Sunday school are the most important; a person's spiritual needs are vital to their future growth," she said.

Kluthe also fits time into her busy schedule for her academic studies. Her favorite class was the multidisciplinary Hiroshima class that was mediated by Dr. Allen Merriam, professor of communications, in the fall of 1995. "There were different teachers every week, so we got different aspects from each of the various schools,"

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Jesse Kluthe
Major:
Psychology
GPA:
4.0



Kluthe said.

Dr. Roger Paige, professor of psychology, had this to say about Kluthe's academic performance at Missouri Southern: "She has a very good understanding of the material, relative to other students."

Kluthe says her parents have also been a huge encouragement to her in school.

"My parents have been very supportive; they always tried to maximize my academic experience," she said.

Kluthe says if she had college to do all over again, she would have more fun and not hurry so much.

"I'd take classes because they interested me, not because they were for my major," she said.

After graduation, Kluthe plans to pursue her master's at Pittsburg State University.

"I will always be a Lions' fan," she said. "Not a Gorillas' fan!" □



MIKE FOX/The Chart
Mike Wilson, assistant men's basketball coach, is one of several men's coaches Jesse Kluthe works with as a secretary in the men's athletic department offices.

Education takes top spot on Van Dalsem's list

By MAX BUI
CHART REPORTER

Priority is the key to a successful college career, according to Shane Van Dalsem, an economics and finance major.

"I just set my priority in education rather than trying to work full-time at the same time," he said.

Dalsem will graduate May 17 with a 3.94 grade-point average.

Dr. Richard E. La Near, professor of business, has been Dalsem's instructor for Principles of Economics and Financial Management.

"Dalsem is obviously one of the best students I've had in class," La Near said. "He studies hard and always showed up for class."

After graduation, Dalsem plans to go to the University of Missouri to get a master's or doctorate in economics and finance.

"After that, I would like to be involved with public policy, maybe working at a college, or running for Congress or political office," he said.

Dalsem now lives by himself in an off-campus apartment in Joplin.

"I like to live by myself," he said. "It gets a bit noisy with other people that makes it hard to concentrate."

Dalsem said he liked the atmosphere and a sense of community Missouri Southern provides.

"The school has good instructors," he said, "but it's just not strict enough. It's too easy to get an A."

He said if he could start all over again, he would choose more difficult classes.

"The harder classes are pushing you to study harder," he said. "It's an education, not an A or B."

"My advice to students," he said, "is just make education your priority."

In what little spare time he has, Dalsem enjoys reading books, watching television, and playing racquetball. □



MIKE FOX/The Chart
Shane Van Dalsem plans to pursue a graduate degree at the University of Missouri-Columbia, then move into public policy.

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Shane Van Dalsem
Major:
Economics and Finance
GPA:
3.944





MIKE FOX/The Chart

Joyce Braudaway (left) originally came to Missouri Southern for an associate's degree in paralegal studies. Now, she will receive a general studies bachelor's degree in May.

Various experiences empower Bosshart

By SUSIE FRISBIE
CHART REPORTER

Typical is a word not commonly used to describe Rick Bosshart's life. Bosshart, a management technology major, is not only a non-traditional student with a 3.962 grade-point average, he is also a man of the '90s.

"My family is one of the '90s," Bosshart said. "My wife is the current income provider for the family."

Bosshart and his wife, Andi, have been married for 13 years and have two daughters, Ashley and Sarah.

Prior to being enrolled at Missouri Southern for the last two years, Bosshart spent time in the armed services. He received his associate's degree in electronics from the Community College of the Air Force. Throughout his years in the armed services, Bosshart attended several other colleges across the country.

Because of his stint in the armed services, Bosshart's family had to move several times. Now the tables have been turned,

however. "I've been playing Mr. Mom," he said.

Upon graduation, Bosshart will be relocating to Nashville because his wife has been offered another position. Once there, he will rely on not only his education but also past experiences in making himself marketable in the workplace.

"With my bachelor's in management and my associate's in electronics, that's good in itself, but life experiences have also given me greater diversification," Bosshart said.

Bosshart believes experiencing life before entering college was successful for him and could be for others.

"I would like to see that once someone gets out of high school, that person work for a couple of years just to get an idea of life and then return to school," he said. "At that point the student will be there because he or she wants to be."

His studying habits have not gone unnoticed.

"Rick is the kind of student you love to have in the class," said one of Bosshart's favorite instructors, Dr. William Stevens.

God, willpower aid Braudaway's work

By AMY HILL
CHART REPORTER

Many people believe a general studies degree is not a "real degree," like one in biology or business. Joyce Braudaway sees it differently, however.

"It worked for me," she said. "I could put all of my communication and computer classes into a degree that worked for me."

Braudaway thought a general studies degree would give her the practical knowledge she could use in the real world. She will graduate May 17 with a 3.97 GPA.

Braudaway said the key to her success was the grace of God, willpower, and strong family support, although it hasn't always been easy.

Both she and her husband have been attending Missouri Southern, working, and raising four children. Braudaway said at the beginning of every semester the family would sit down and plot out a time schedule.

She began taking classes at Southern in January 1993 for an associate's degree in paralegal studies. She received that degree in May 1995 and worked as a paralegal for six months.

"My frustration was that the law moves too slowly," Braudaway said. "I decided it wasn't for me."

One of the things Braudaway likes about Southern is the faculty and staff. She believes the people make the College.

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Joyce Braudaway
Major:
General studies
GPA:
3.97



"I've had a lot of good teachers," she said. "Dean [Jim] Gray was one of my favorites. He made everything very real and practical."

Her advice to other students is to set goals and keep them in sight. Also, she says, it is important to be flexible. If something isn't working, don't be afraid to change course.

Braudaway's long-range employment goal is to stay at Southern. On April 7 she started as the new student accounts manager.

She worked for two years as a student help employee and knew everyone in the business office, so the transition was an easy one. "I think this (Southern) is home," Braudaway said. □

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Rick Bosshart
Major:
Management technology
GPA:
3.962



associate professor of business.

Bosshart has learned that success in the classroom and success in life are dependent on one key factor.

"Personal enrichment is very important; just to do something to say I've been there and done it is not enough," he said. "You get to a point where you want to get something more out of that experience." □

MIKE FOX/The Chart
Upon graduation Rick Bosshart will move to Nashville, Tenn., with his family.



Todd Hedger (right), economics and finance major with a grade-point average of 3.948, said a major reason he came to Southern was because of its small class size.

Busy lifestyle doesn't leave Sage dizzy before graduation

By JEFF BILLINGTON
CHART REPORTER

Last summer Rachel Sage was surrounded by excitement, from traveling in England to getting married in early August.

Most college students would still be dizzy after a year like that, but not Sage, a senior English major. She is just buckling down and trying to decide on a graduate school.

"I applied to Washington University in St. Louis, Cornell University, Boston College, and Columbia University," Sage said. "I have been accepted by Washington, but that's the only one I've heard from so far."

She has achieved a 3.97 grade-point average and is the president of Sigma Pi Delta, the English honors society.

Sage has always known that she wanted to major in English.

"I declared my major my freshman year," she said, "and I've always loved literature."

Sage works in the Learning Center where she tutors English.

"I tutor people who need help in writing papers, like for English 101 or 102," she said.

Sage has already made plans on what she intends to do for

a career. "I'm going to get my Ph.D. and then I'd like to teach," she said. "I like teaching writing, but I also want to teach literature because I like talking about it."

Sage said Dr. Doris Walters, professor of English; Dr. William Kumbier, associate professor of English; Dr. Joy Dworkin, assistant professor of English; and Dr. Arthur Saltzman, professor of English, have proven to be some of her favorite instructors at Southern.

"Rachel is one of the most perceptive readers I've ever encountered," Walters said. "She is also a superb writer."

Sage explained that of all the positive aspects Southern has to offer, her favorite is the English department.

"I think the English department is really outstanding," she said.

"From what I've heard, it's better than a lot of schools around here, even the bigger schools."

Even though Sage sees many positive things about Southern, she does see some downfalls in it.

"The thing I like least is that Missouri Southern isn't big enough to offer some things that big colleges offer," she said. "I would really like some big-name authors to come here and give lectures."

Sage graduated from Joplin High School in 1993 after moving to the area three years earlier.

"I lived in Springfield most of my life," she said.

"We moved here when I was a sophomore."

On Aug. 3 Sage married Joel Arabia, a New Jersey native whom she met in Canada at a church camp for the Christadelphian Church.

"He graduated from Montclair State University in New Jersey in 1993 and then moved to Joplin," she said.

Thanks to the Oxford program offered by Southern, Sage was able

to journey to England last summer.

"I loved it," she said. "It was everything I hoped it would be."

Butler native loves working with numbers

By HELEN POWERS
CHART REPORTER

Some people get a migraine when working with numbers. Others get a promising future.

"I'm good with numbers, I guess I always have been," said Todd Hedger, an economics and finance major with a grade-point average of 3.948.

This lifelong resident of Butler, Mo., graduated in 1993 from Butler High School, where he was a member of the National Honor Society.

Upon entering Missouri Southern, Hedger moved to Joplin.

"I share a place with my sister, Jill; it's more economical that way," Hedger said.

Jill Hedger is a sophomore computational mathematics major at Southern.

"One of the reasons I came to Southern was the small classes," he said.

"My favorite class would have to be economics. Dr. [Jasbir] Jaswal (professor of business) really inspired me to work hard."

Jaswal had some good things to say about Hedger as well.

"His combination of intelligence and hard work will do wonders for Todd," Jaswal said.

"He was an excellent student; he shows great promise."

Throughout his college career, Hedger has been an active member of several clubs and organizations.

He served as the president of Omicron Delta Epsilon (an international honor society) and vice president of the Economics and Finance Club. For seven semesters he has made the Dean's List (GPA of 3.75 or above).

Hedger is a member of Phi Beta Lambda, a business fraternity, and the Phi Eta Sigma honor society.

"After graduation in May, I will be working in Overland Park, Kan.," Hedger said. "I plan to work as a mortgage loan officer."

His advice?

"Don't be afraid to ask about the different instructors," he said. "The easy ones may get you a good grade, but you won't learn as much. A hard one may be too hard and affect your attitude and reflect in your performance."

Top 25 Seniors

Name: Todd Hedger
Major: Economics/finance
GPA: 3.948

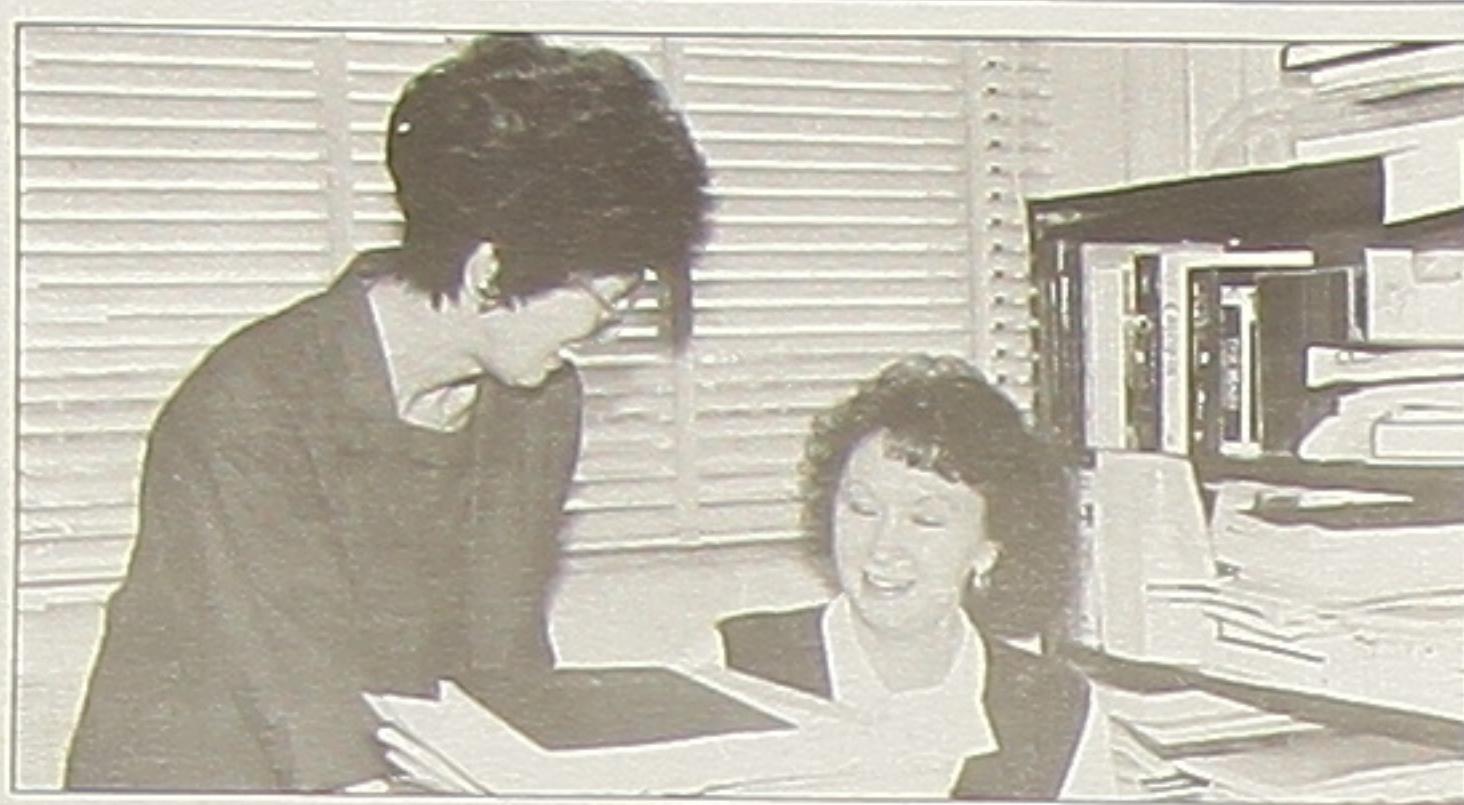


Top 25 Seniors

Name: Rachel Sage
Major: English
GPA: 3.97



Accounting majors add up to large numbers



Donna Swatzell (right), hopes to start a career as an accountant after graduation.

Time is 'right' for Swatzell

By JEFF BILLINGTON
CHART REPORTER

After Donna Swatzell's husband, Thomas, was transferred to the area six and a half years ago, she decided to start college.

"I had just always wanted to take some college, and it was the right time," she said. "A friend of mine had gone to a Return to Learn class and that got me started."

Swatzell, who started at Missouri Southern part-time in the fall of 1991, has accomplished a 4.0 grade-point average and will receive an accounting degree on May 17.

She chose Southern for several different reasons, including location, size, and cost.

"It was close enough that it wouldn't take more time than necessary away from my family," Swatzell said. "And I think I would have found it a little bit overwhelming to have 200 in my classes to start out with."

Two of her favorite instructors are Dr. James Shaver, professor of accounting, and Mary Elick, associate professor of mathematics.

"I can imagine her GPA being very high; she's a very bright person," Shaver said. "She's the type of person who adds something to a class; she has good questions and adds to the discussions."

"One of the reasons I like Dr. Shaver so well is because a couple of years ago I got really discouraged because I thought I'm

not getting anywhere and everything seems to be going so slow," Swatzell said. "He set me down and we planned it out; it seemed easier when I saw the progress I had made."

A Kentucky native, she moved to Carl Junction with her husband and two children six and a half years ago.

"He's a claims adjuster for Shelter Insurance," Swatzell said. "He applied for a supervisor's position, and we moved here."

"Everybody says, 'You're from the south, aren't you, the way you talk?'" she said. "And I'm saying we are directly east of here if you draw a line."

"I didn't even know I was from the south until I moved here," Swatzell added.

She has done everything from working in a Fisher Price toy factory to collecting money for Hawaiian Tropic suntan lotion.

"Right now I'm working as a pharmacy technician and accounting clerk at Ozark Center," Swatzell said.

She's a family-oriented woman.

Her parents owned a dairy farm in Kentucky until about three years ago.

"When they were still out farming, they could work circles around me," Swatzell said.

She teaches the seventh-grade Sunday school class at the Church of Christ at Fourth and Forest.

"It's a big part of our lives," Swatzell said. "Anytime we have moved away from our family, that (the church) becomes our family." □

Baker realizes value of hard work

By BENJI TUNNELL
CHART REPORTER

Hard work and perseverance may result in a good grade-point average, but it needs to be balanced with enjoyable free time. John Baker knows this well.

Baker, an accounting major, has put a lot of work into his studies, and that has resulted in a 4.0 GPA. His hard work has also resulted in a job awaiting him in Kansas City at graduation. On June 1 he will begin work for Mayer Hoffman McCann.

Baker graduated from the University of Kansas in 1990 with a bachelor in business administration. He left his job at Roosevelt Financial Services, Inc., where he was an investment sales manager, to return to school full-time. His duties there included supervising six branches and 18 sales associates.

One thing that Baker says has helped him in his academic career is preparedness.

"Be prepared," he said. "Read the chapter

before listening to the lecture."

He also suggests making sure students clear on the subject matter being taught.

"I've never been shy with regards to asking questions. If there's something that I don't understand as well as I should, I won't let it pass me by."

Baker credits the support of his wife of three years, Elizabeth, for allowing him to focus on his job and return to school full-time. He however, have to sell his KU basketball season tickets to raise money.

"I had to sell my KU basketball tickets this year to help pay for school and wouldn't you know it that they went \$42? I didn't get to attend one game."

Baker also credits Southern's faculty. He says the quality instruction at Southern is comparable with that at the University of Kansas.

"I really have appreciated the attention given to the students here."

You're more than a number, you're a name, and that tends to help the learning experience."

Dr. James Shaver, professor of accounting

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
John Baker
Major:
Accounting
GPA:
4.0



You're more than a number, you're a name, and that tends to help the learning experience."

Dr. James Shaver, professor of accounting

Personal touch helps graduate Hopkins

By AMY HILL
CHART REPORTER

For many college students, picking a major can be a difficult task. But for others, like Renee Hopkins, it was no trouble at all.

"I took an accounting class in high school," she said. "I liked it from then on out."

Hopkins followed in her brother's footsteps and began classes at Missouri Southern in the fall of 1993. Southern was where she always wanted to go.

In 1994 Hopkins became a member of the Phi Eta Sigma honor society. On May 17 she will graduate with a 3.97 GPA.

"You make a lot of contacts," Hopkins said of the Accounting Club, "professional contacts."

The benefits of attending Southern for Hopkins have been the smaller size and the faculty and staff. She believes the small class size lends a more personal touch to education.

By the same token, she also believes the small size of the College could be a weakness.

"It isn't a university," she said. "Some employers look at that."

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Renee Hopkins
Major:
Accounting
GPA:
3.973



Auditing class was a favorite for Hopkins. Dr. Mark Comstock, her favorite instructor and adviser, taught the class. She said Comstock made class fun and was easy to talk to and work with.

"Renee is a very aggressive learner," Comstock said. "She's shown a lot of leadership and good team spirit."

For her, the key to success in college was hour after hour of studying. □

ge sum of Top 25 seniors

education, but free time balances life

Baker's adviser, believes Baker is destined to succeed.

He credits his determination for his success.

"He knew exactly what his goal was, and after he knew exactly what it was he needed to do to reach that goal, he never varied in his efforts to get there," Shaver said.

Shaver also believes Baker will have no problems readapting to the work force.

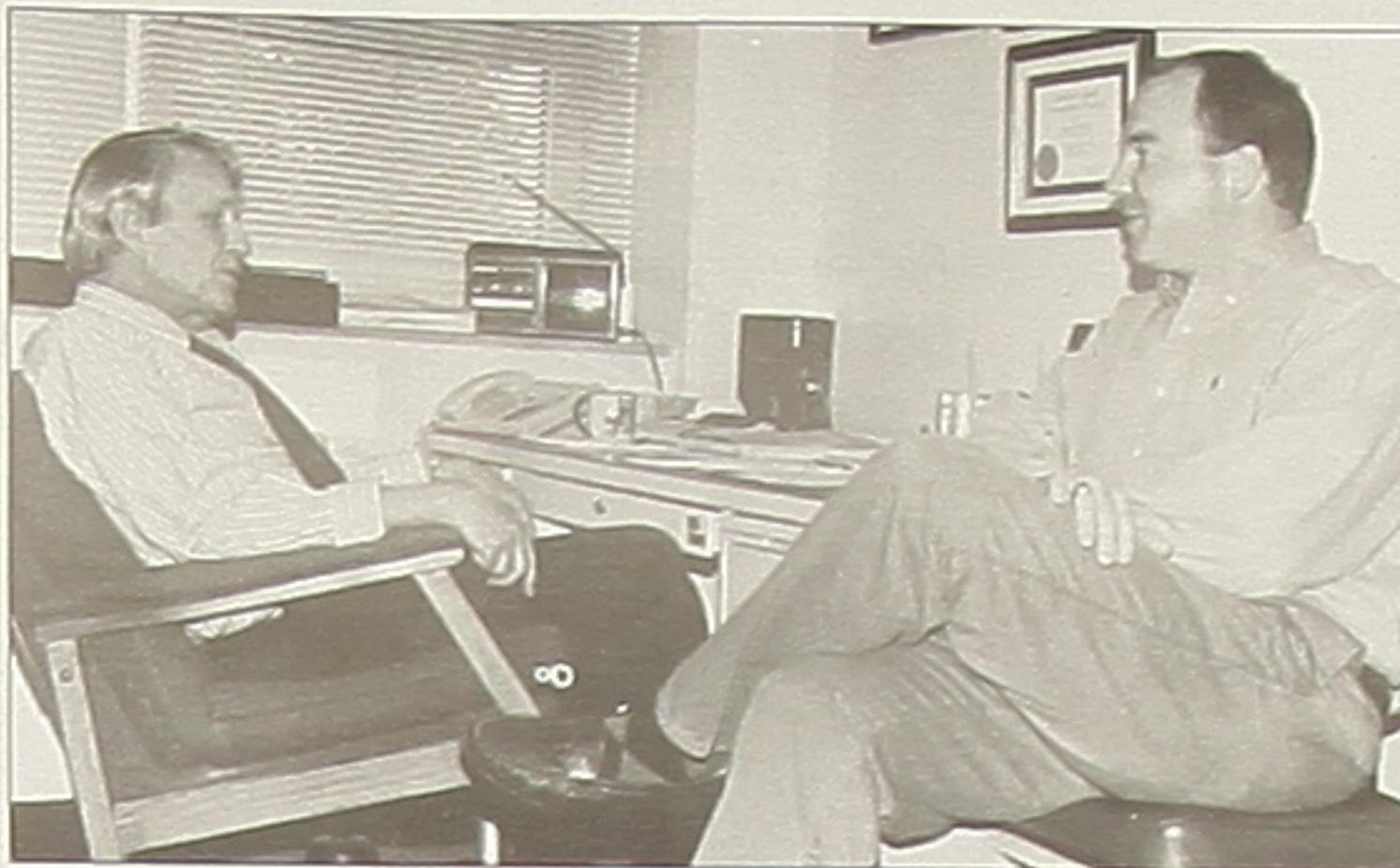
"He's going to an excellent place, and he'll do an excellent job when he gets there. I have no doubt that he'll be hugely successful."

When not studying or attending classes, Baker spends what little spare time he has among various hobbies. He likes gardening, racquetball, attending KU football and basketball games, snow and water skiing, and traveling.

Baker is well traveled. In high school, he toured Italy, France, England, and Greece. He has also been skiing in Austria, Germany, and Colorado, and he has visited Bermuda, Barbados, the Bahamas, and Hawaii.

Baker, a member of the Accounting Club and Alpha Chi, has also done some tutoring. He believes he was helping others while also helping himself.

"Not only did it allow me to give back some of the help that I have received, but it also helped me to enhance my knowledge in



MIKE FOX/The Chart

John Baker (right), will finish his collegiate education with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Accounting classes, like the ones taught by Dr. James Shaver, were enjoyable, he said.

accounting by helping others."

Baker recommends studying something that you enjoy.

"If you have something you're very passionate about, you'll do better," he said. "Whereas if you're just doing something because you're supposed to be doing it and not really

because you want to do it, it's going to be a little harder to get through it."

As he is leaving to re-enter the working world, Baker has one piece of advice he wants to pass on.

"Work hard and play hard. That's my motto." □

Top Majors in the Top 25

25

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Accounting | 4 |
| 4.0 students | 2 |
| — | |
| *Psychology | 3 |
| 4.0 students | 2 |
| — | |
| Biology | 2 |
| 4.0 students | 1 |
| — | |
| Criminal Justice | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 1 |
| — | |
| Management | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 1 |
| — | |
| Nursing | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 1 |
| — | |
| Social Science | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 1 |
| — | |
| *Spanish | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 1 |
| — | |
| Economics and Finance | 3 |
| 4.0 students | 0 |
| — | |
| Elementary Education | 2 |
| 4.0 students | 0 |
| — | |
| English | 2 |
| 4.0 students | 0 |
| — | |
| English Education | 2 |
| 4.0 students | 0 |
| — | |
| General Studies | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 0 |
| — | |
| History | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 0 |
| — | |
| Management Technology | 1 |
| 4.0 students | 0 |

*Senior Amy Reif is a double major in psychology and Spanish.

Army injury forces Neely in new direction

By BRIAN SHIVLEY
CHART REPORTER

Dairy farming is the business that provides for the daily needs of C. Russ Neely and his family.

"The work is very satisfying, almost relaxing," said Neely, a senior accounting major with a 3.944 grade-point average. "It's very low key."

He gets up at 4:30 a.m., seven days a week, to tend his cows. He goes through the chores again every evening. However, due to an injury incurred in the early 1970s, arthritis is beginning to limit his ability to accomplish the sometimes heavy physical requirements.

Because the injury occurred while he was serving as a U.S. Army tank commander, the Veterans Administration has provided the

opportunity for him to retrain for a new career.

The decision to study accounting was pretty much made by the V.A., Neely said. "I really had doubts about whether I would like it, but it has turned out to be a great decision."

In 1978 Neely graduated from Sul Ross State University in western Texas with a degree in political science. He has observed several differences in the environment of college life for a student.

"There are still some students around who are just here because it is expected for them," Neely said, "but they seem to be the exception at Southern. Maybe it is because there are so many students here who have returned to school after they have realized how much an education can do for them."

His one complaint about Southern's accounting program is that the plan is laid out so extensively. Few choices are left in regard to class



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Majoring in accounting worried C. Russ Neely who now calls it a "great decision."

selection, Neely said. The degree allows for only two electives, and one of those must be in the accounting field.

"Securities analysis was the elective I chose, and it turned out to be my favorite class," Neely said. "I took it so that I could learn how to get rich. I think I know how now; if I only had the money to start."

Dr. Mark Comstock, assistant professor of business, describes Neely as a leader in the classroom.

"He asks good questions," Comstock said. "He is good at digging out the information in class that is going to benefit the whole class." □

After 5 years, Clark nears her dream of graduation

By TERESA BLAND
STAFF WRITER

Setting goals has become an important part of Julie Clark's life. In April, she reached a goal that was two years in the making when she was inducted into the honor society, Alpha Chi.

The next goal to be reached, set five years ago, is so close within her grasp. Graduation.

Clark, an elementary education major,

will graduate in May with a 3.94 grade-point average. The road to reaching this goal hasn't been easy for Clark, both a full-time student at Missouri Southern and a full-time single mother to Drew, 12, Kristin, 15, and Kelli, 17.

"It's been stressful at times," she said. "The kids have been super; they have been patient and understanding. It got to the point that when I said we were eating at McDonald's tonight, the kids would go 'Oh no!'" Clark chuckled. "It used to be neat to eat out, but now they want me to cook."

She said they don't complain when they have to do laundry or when they are used as "guinea pigs" in classroom experiments.

"They've been really understanding," she said.

Clark had worked as a teacher's aide, and that job helped set her goal to return to college.

"I knew what I was getting into," she said. "I knew that it was not a lifelong goal, that it wasn't something that I had

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Julie Clark

Major:
*Elementary
education*

GPA:
3.94



wanted since I was little, but once I got into education and working with kids, I knew that's what I wanted to do."

Clark has been student teaching in the Nevada school district since February, working with elementary and secondary students with learning disabilities.

"I love it," she said. "It's better than I thought it would be."

Since her area of concentration was teaching students with learning disabilities, Clark said a learning disabilities methods course was her favorite class and Dr. Doreen Vieitez was her favorite instructor.

"She is a wonderful instructor," Clark said. "She used wonderful notes and had great examples. Every week, she had activities to go along with the things that she was teaching."

"She put us in the position of being a student with disabilities."

Vieitez, assistant professor of education, was impressed with Clark as a student and a person.

"From all of her thoughtful comments and dynamic presentations, I expect her to be a creative and caring teacher and create a positive environment for her students," she said.

"She will definitely make Missouri Southern proud."

In addition to her full-time duties, Clark has found time to participate in campus organizations.

"I was foundation officer for Kappa Delta Pi and vice president for the Council for Exceptional Children," she said.

Clark won't be the only family member to graduate in two weeks.

"Kelli and I graduate the same weekend, and it's a good thing. I can't afford two of us in college," she said laughing.

Clark's success as a parent, as a student, and her potential success as a teacher can be credited to her family's combined efforts.

"We've worked so hard for this and waited so long," she said.

"What got me through the tough times was knowing that this was what I wanted to do. I couldn't have done this without them." □

MIKE FOX/The Chart

Lisa Clark (left), says she couldn't have graduated without the help of her family.



Marriage, master's ahead for Gautz

BY BRIAN SHIVLEY
CHART REPORTER

A seven-day field-work trip to Belize in the summer of 1995 stands apart for Kristin Gautz as she remembers her years at Missouri Southern.

Gautz and 16 other students and faculty studied birds, marine vertebrates and invertebrates, Mayan ruins, public health, and water quality as part of a Biomes class the College offered.

"The way people live is so different," she said. "The focus was on family. People there weren't so much out for themselves. They seemed to be in touch with the important things in life."

Those same priorities are important to Gautz, a senior biology major, during this time of major transitions in her life. In the next few weeks she intends to start teaching an anatomy lab at Southwest Missouri State University, begin work on her master's degree, and get married.

Her fiance is Carl Bhend, a junior biology education major. After their May 31 wedding, they intend to continue their education together at SMSU.

"We have so much in common with our mutual interests in biology and education," Gautz said. "It makes our relationship enjoyable."

The list of important activities had to be limited as her degree progressed. A significant commute from Sarcoxie, classes that became more demanding as her degree

progressed, and the hours she worked in the financial aid office brought about her decision to decrease her involvement in the Biology Club and Koinonia. She has continued to be active in her church, though.

"Sometimes I'm pretty hard on myself," Gautz said. "I want to be able to do my very best at whatever I attempt, so keeping everything in balance is sometimes hard."

However, performing at the peak of her ability netted Gautz respect from her instructors and a 3.97 grade-point average. While both are important to her, neither was the reason she pushed herself so hard.

"I really wanted to perform," Gautz said. "I want my teachers to know that they are not wasting their energy. I believe that giving your best

effort in a class is the best compliment that you can possibly give a teacher."

While she was hard pressed to name an instructor as her favorite, she said Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology, played an important role in the progress of her education.

As her adviser, Jackson directed her in the pursuit of summer internships that proved important to gaining her objectives.

"Kristin provides the kind of feedback that makes teaching enjoyable," Jackson said. "She has a real desire to learn, and that allows me to be a facilitator for the learning process as opposed to trying to



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Kristin Gautz (right) has several plans after graduating from Missouri Southern, two of which are a May 31 wedding and starting on her master's degree at SMSU.

stimulate the desire to learn."

During the summer of 1995 Gautz worked at the Chapman Cancer Institute in Joplin. The next summer she spent at the University of Nebraska-Omaha Eppley Cancer Institute.

Her work there included a ground work study in the pursuit of a tumor cell vaccine.

"It was just required preliminary studies

for a much larger study," she said. "I worked about 40 hours a week for 10 weeks establishing data for the program that I was participating in."

Gautz said she enjoyed her time at Southern.

"The teachers here make a huge difference. They helped me to know that the best teachers are out for the best for their students. That's the way I want to be." □

G.I. Bill instrumental in Mitchell's 4.0 average

College's small classes attractive to graduate

By LESLIE FLETCHER
CHART REPORTER

Hard work is not a new term for Brian Mitchell.

Mitchell, a management major, started college at the age of 21 after spending three years in the service.

"I went into the Army to receive the G.I. Bill to help pay for college," he said. "I had to maintain a good GPA to keep the fund, or I would be paying for it."

He did maintain the GPA, graduating in December 1996 with a 4.0.

"I think Southern's biggest strength is

the small classes," he said.

"I got to know a lot of people at school. The teachers are another asset at Southern."

Mitchell said his favorite instructor was Dr. T.A. Vernon, assistant professor of business.

"His classes were very challenging for me, and he was always there to help the students with questions we might have," Mitchell said.

"Brian knew the value of his education and didn't waste any hours," Vernon said. "He tried to make an A on every assignment in every class."

Mitchell said most of his classes came easy for him.

"Physical science was the hardest class I took at Southern," he said.

After starting college at the age of 21, Mitchell said the only thing that he would have done differently was becoming more involved socially in different activities.

Upon his graduation from Southern, Mitchell said he was concerned about competing against students from larger universities in the job market.

"Southern is so small I was afraid I might be overlooked," he said. "I think that my grades made all the difference in the world."

Mitchell and his wife, Shannon, moved to Minnesota right after he finished his degree.

He started working for Hormel Foods Jan. 1.

"Everything is what you make of it," he said. "Give it your all." □

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Brian Mitchell
Major:
Management
GPA:
4.0





Jeremy Brown, senior English major, said he received much of his support through his college career to his parents and to many of his professors at Missouri Southern. But now Brown looks forward to a fun atmosphere at graduate school.

MIKE FOX/
The Chart

Adventures, studies, Shakespeare just a few of Brown's first loves

By BETH HAMILTON
CHART REPORTER

Imagine spending three weeks in picturesque England and attending Oxford University.

Think about studying Shakespeare and attending a few plays executed in his homeland. That's what Jeremy Brown, English major, did last summer.

"That's probably why I like Shakespeare so much," he said.

The very next semester, Brown enrolled in the Shakespeare class at Missouri Southern. This was his favorite class, taught by Dr. William Kumbier, associate professor of English.

Brown is now working on his honors project. With Kumbier as his adviser, he once again deals with Shakespeare.

"It (the project) is on film versions of Hamlet."

Kumbier is Brown's favorite instructor because he is "so knowledgeable about so many different things." Brown enjoys just talking with him.

"Jeremy has incredible enthusiasm for that subject (his honors project)," Kumbier says. "He has great intelligence, insight, and self-discipline in writing."

"He really jumps at the chance to engage difficult issues."

Ironically enough, Kumbier also taught Brown's most difficult class — Literary Criticism.

Brown says hard work and determination

explain how he manages to graduate this month with a 3.948 grade-point average.

"I always enter a class with the expectation that I'm going to get an 'A,'" he said.

He explains he has also had much encouragement from people. "I owe my success to my sources of support such as my parents," he says. "And talking to Dr. David Ackiss and Dr. Patricia Kluthe helped me with my indecision."

Brown's family include his parents, Tom and Kathy; an older brother, David, 24; a younger brother, Nick, 16; and a collie, Spencer.

He has been involved in the Baptist Student Union, Koinonia, Sigma Tau Delta, Omicron Delta Kappa, Epsilon Mu Sigma, and he attends North Main Street Baptist Church.

He is in the honors program and has worked at Community Bank and Trust for three years. He is currently doing an internship at Children's Miracle Network where he writes stories for newsletters and letters to people and is coordinating a program called the "Safe Kids Coalition."

He thinks the strength of Southern is that

it is small and students are able to know their instructors personally. He says its weakness is that it's such a commuter campus and there isn't really a "true college atmosphere" on the campus.

"Everybody goes home after classes," he says.

A fun atmosphere is one thing Brown looks forward to with graduate school. He plans to take next year off, working and applying to graduate schools. His interests include creative writing and law.

"I'd like to go into creative writing, but I don't know if I can, it's pretty tough," he says.

His advice to other students is to pick a major as soon as possible. That is one thing he wishes he would have done. He realizes now that

majors are somewhat versatile. "It doesn't matter so much what you're majoring in," he explains. "As long as you have a college education, you can do a lot of different things."

Brown has obviously had to study frequently to maintain his grades, but he still finds time to go out with his friends.

"You don't really know anything about literature unless you know about life." □

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Jeremy Brown
Major:
English
GPA:
3.948



Bachelor's degree tip of learning iceberg

By MAX BUI
CHART REPORTER

The desire to teach motivated senior English education major Patricia Hinds to return to school and soar to a 3.974 grade-point average.

"Teaching English is just something I always wanted to do. It's fun!" she said.

Hinds plans to go to Southwest Missouri State University in the fall to pursue a master's degree in English.

"I would like to teach at the community college level," she said.

Right now, she is student-teaching at Joplin High School.

"It's a lot of papers to grade, but I'm really enjoying the classes," she said.

Her secret to being successful is to study hard, be well-organized, and use time wisely.

"I don't think that I am necessarily smarter than anyone else," she said. "It just takes a lot of self-discipline and hard work."

Hinds also has an understanding family that has supported her since she came to Southern in 1990.

"My husband is the one who encouraged me to go back to school, and my family also supported me and helped a lot at home," she said.

She has two daughters. Her older daughter, Cindy, is married, and her younger daughter, Kristen, is a sophomore at Pierce City High School.

Hinds' hometown is Denver, Colo.



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Education major Patricia Hinds isn't through learning yet. After she receives her degree from Missouri Southern she plans to go to Southwest Missouri State University.

where she graduated from high school in 1968.

"The opportunity wasn't there [to go on to college] after I graduated from high school, but finally it came and I was able to go back," she said.

Hinds loves literature and the English language. She said her favorite instructors were Dr. Dale Simpson and Dr. Henry Harder, professors of English.

"Dr. Simpson is my adviser, and he has been a wonderful friend as well," she said. American Literature and English Literature, Hinds' most interesting classes, were taught by Simpson and Harder.

"They're very knowledgeable and understandable instructors," she said.

Simpson and Harder returned the compliments.

"Patricia is a very talented, bright, and

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Patricia Hinds
Major:
Elementary Education
GPA:
3.974



concerned student," Simpson said. "She always does a high degree of quality studying. She is an excellent writer, thinker, and researcher."

"Patricia is a bright, well-prepared student," Harder said. "She always appears to be interested in the subject, bringing new ideas into the literature. I have a great respect for her as a student and as a person."

Hinds also has a high regard for other English instructors, such as Dr. Henry Morgan and Dr. Doris Walter, professors of English.

"They're very good and devoted instructors. They're great!" she said.

Hinds said she has met some of the best friends she has ever had at Southern.

"We are sharing ideas together, the ways to learn and teach. It's helpful," she said. □

Active senior takes time to excel through studying

Peterson credits higher power for her classroom success

By MARILYN HAZBOUN
CHART REPORTER

God and Amber Peterson, a 4.0 senior at Missouri Southern, have gone hand in hand through college together.

"I memorize stuff and pray to God to help me on the test," said Peterson, a criminal justice major. "God is the main factor why I'm a honors student and happy."

She belongs to two Southern clubs, Koinonia and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Peterson also attends either St. Mary's or St. Peter's Catholic churches in Joplin.

She is on the Lady Lion softball team, where she plays first base. Basketball was Peterson's forte, but Southern has fast-pitch softball, which interested her. She

tried out for the softball team and made it.

"We only had slow pitch in high school," Peterson said. "I didn't want to do it, and I was a little tired of basketball after playing since fifth grade."

She was born in Springfield and lived short periods of time in many places. She graduated from high school in Siloam Springs, Ark. Peterson had two reasons for coming to Missouri for her degree.

"I came to Southern for its criminal justice school," she said. "I've heard it's top five in the nation, and also it had softball."

Trina Scott, assistant professor of law enforcement, inspired Peterson to continue her education after Southern.

"Dr. Scott was always asking me, 'So you're going to law school, right?' I kept telling her 'No,'" Peterson said.

Scott was extremely persistent with her questioning. Peterson changed her mind and decided to

pursue a J.D. degree.

"Amber is a multi-talented young lady who will make a fine contribution to the legal profession," Scott said. "I would be happy to call her a professional colleague."

Peterson has been accepted into two law schools, the University of Missouri-Columbia and the University Of Arkansas. She doesn't know which one she'll pick. She prays about it continually.

Peterson's best advice for students is to "just believe in him (God). He's going to do through you whatever he wants done. Even if you don't follow what he wants, he'll forgive you." □

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Amber Peterson
Major:
Criminal Justice
GPA:
4.0



MIKE FOX/The Chart
Amber Peterson, criminal justice major, was a standout for the softball squad.

Weber: Oxford bound

By JUSTIN SIFFORD
CHART REPORTER

While most students were working summer jobs, Mark Weber, senior history major, was studying abroad and absorbing all aspects of historical culture.

"I took my summers and went to seminars — history, philosophy, economics — and the best thing about them is that they're free!" he said.

Using his summers to study isn't the only reason Weber has achieved a spot among the top 25 graduating seniors with a 3.976 grade-point average.

Weber, who will graduate May 17, said the secret to his success is no riddle. Hard work, turning in assignments, and going to class are the three main elements to doing well in college, he said.

Weber says his favorite time frame in history is the medieval period. This would explain why his favorite class was English History to 1660, taught by Dr. Paul Teverow, professor of history. Weber was also among the few students who had the opportunity to study at Oxford last summer.

"Being in England was great. It's a very different

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Mark Weber
Major:
History
GPA:
3.976



larger universities."

Weber's favorite instructor, Dr. Robert Markman, associate professor of history, had this to say about Weber, "He is a first-rate student, well read, interested, and focused. He is joy to have in class." □

BY SUSIE FRISBIE
CHART REPORTER

After spending several years out of the classroom, Kerry Durham, a social science education major, returned to further her education.

Durham did so in perfect fashion, earning a 4.0 grade-point average.

"I'm a non-traditional student doing the traditional four years," she said.

Along with maintaining a 4.0 GPA, Durham also served as secretary of Kappa Delta Pi, an education honors society, and was a member of Pi Alpha Zeta, a history honors society.

Durham, who has lived in the McDonald County area most of her life, has found a way to balance her love of education and her family — education.

"Teaching is a good job for a parent when you have summers off and a similar schedule to your child," she said.

Prior to entering Missouri Southern, Durham attended Crowder College in Neosho.

"I love Crowder, but I also really enjoyed Missouri Southern. I enjoyed my instructors and the other students," she said.

There is a mutual respect between Durham and her instructors.

"She is very bright and very intuitive," said one of Durham's

culture; the pubs were great, too," he said.

Weber, in fact, will seek a second bachelor's degree at Oxford, making him the first Missouri Southern student to seek and receive regular admission to the prestigious university. He will enter the hallowed halls of the ancient institution in the fall.

"Besides the atmosphere of the old buildings and the surroundings, it's the 700-year-old traditions and the intellectually vibrant academics that I'm really looking forward to," he said.

Weber will study modern history, 17th and 18th century English history specifically, at Lady Margaret Hall. There is no better place to study English history than at Oxford," he said.

At Missouri Southern, Weber was an active member of the Philosophy Club, Epsilon Mu Sigma, Phi Alpha Theta, and Pi Gamma Mu. He enjoys intramural basketball and is a big fan of Woody Allen.

"The thing I like most about Southern is the small classes," he said. "You get a chance to talk one-on-one with professors, a thing you can't always do at



MIKE FOX/The Chart
Dr. David Ackiss, professor of English (left), looks over papers with Mark Weber, senior history major, in the honors office. Weber spent part of last summer at Oxford University in England.

'Bright' and 'intuitive' define overachieving mom

BY SUSIE FRISBIE
CHART REPORTER

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There is a mutual respect between Durham and her instructors.

"She is very bright and very intuitive," said one of Durham's

favorite instructors, Dr. Karl Schmidt, assistant professor of history. "She has all the qualities that make for an excellent learner."

Durham is currently student teaching at Neosho Junior High. Upon graduation on May 17, she hopes to find a job within driving distance of her home.

When Durham entered college, she decided to give up the sign shop she ran. In this shop, she sold wooden signs and cards she painted and airbrushed.

Aside from painting, Durham enjoys time with her husband, her 8-year-old daughter, and their three horses. She also enjoys writing.

"In the future, I'd like to write biographies and novels, if I can find the time," Durham said.

Durham has also written children's stories for her daughter.

College has not only been a positive experience for Durham but also for her daughter.

"My daughter has gone to a couple of classes with me," she said. "She liked college better than elementary school, but she asked me 'Mommy, are you the biggest in your class?'

Durham attributes her success to hard work. This hard work often results in a little shopping.

"Sometimes you have to reward yourself, and that helps keep your determination up," Durham said.

"It takes a lot of determination." □

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Kerry Durham
Major:
Social science
GPA:
4.0





Tammy Miller (right), senior education major, talks with Dr. Deborah Pulliam, assistant professor of education. Miller believes nothing is too difficult to accomplish, no matter what the task.

MIKE FOX/
The Chart

More than teaching the ABCs

Miller hopes to influence children through education

By BETH HAMILTON
CHART REPORTER

Teaching and influencing children is an amazing responsibility, according to Tammy Miller, education major.

Miller is currently student-teaching fifth grade at Neosho Middle School, where the children have been learning about the Civil War.

"The kids read the Gettysburg Address in unison, and it just kind of gave me a chill," she said.

"They don't really know what all it means, but this is where they're going to learn to have a love for their country."

"A teacher has an awesome responsibility to make them appreciate those words," she explains.

Miller is excited about becoming a teacher, but in some ways she regrets getting a late start.

"Sometimes I think that I could have gone right to college from high school and could have been teaching for years now. But I'm glad, too, that I did it this way because I got to spend time with my kids when they were little."

Her family consists of her husband, Fred, and four children: Joel, 20; Lacy, 17; Matthew, 15; and Brittany, 9. She also has a new grandchild of two months, Aspyn, who is Lacy's daughter.

Miller manages to keep a 3.95 grade-point average despite the claims made on her time. What's the secret to her success?

"I study a lot. My family says I don't have a life," she laughs.

Also taking up time are her extra-curricular activities.

She is involved in many organizations including SMSTA, the International Reading Association, World Issues for Study of Educators, Kappa Delta Phi, and Alpha Chi. She teaches Sunday school and Bible school at the Church of Christ in Seneca, where she is a member.

She also has worked as an orthodontist's assistant for many years.

Her favorite class was Micro-teaching with Dr. Doreen Vieitez, assistant professor of education. It's an education class where one teaches into a video camera and the group critiques.

"It's [the class] I most dreaded, and then it turned out to be the most fun," she said.

She says her toughest class was Geometry.

"Math is my weak subject."

One of her favorite instructors was Dr. Jane Scholl, assistant professor of education, who was also her adviser.

"She was really willing to help," Miller says.

"She would tell many personal stories in class, and she is interested in students."

Scholl also praised Miller. "Tammy has a fine mix of characteristics that will enhance her as a teacher," she said. "She is vibrant, dedicated, capable, and she will be a true asset to the teaching profession."

Miller also attended Crowder College in Neosho. She

liked entering the education program at Missouri Southern because she has remained with many of the same students in her classes.

"The last day of classes [at Crowder] we exchanged phone numbers so we could stay in touch."

Miller also likes the programs Southern has to offer. She traveled to Oxford for three weeks last summer and went to Washington, D.C. for four days in October.

She says the whole classroom setting and atmosphere were different at Oxford.

"The classes have tutors," she said.

"There were seven people in my class, and we would sit around on couches and discuss things."

In Washington, D.C., the Southern students who participated were placed in intercity schools.

She said it was a different scene than she was used to.

Miller would like to get a job teaching fifth grade somewhere in the area.

She has advice for students who want to do well in school and in life. "It's all in how much effort you want to put out," she says.

"Nothing is too hard; it's just the amount of time and effort you want to put into it."

"I tell that to my fifth graders." □

Top 25 Seniors

Name:
Tammy Miller
Major:
Education
GPA:
3.95



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